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Why the king of Blueberry Hill is ready to call it quits

BY KATHRYN FLAGG
PAGE 26

GUN STUNNED PAGE 12
VTers consider limits

SNOWMAKE OR BREAK? PAGE 30
XC skiing centers go high-tech

HIKING HAZARDS PAGE 32
How not to get lost in winter

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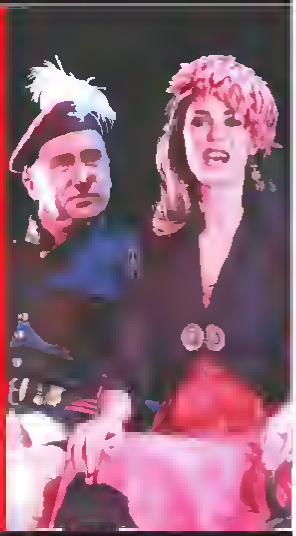
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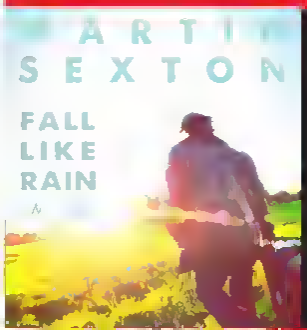
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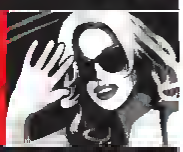
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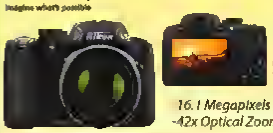
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Bagging Big Game

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department bagged a big one last week.

As part of a sting operation, wildlife officials exposed an allegedly illegal captive hunting facility in Fairlee where well-heeled sportsmen paid thousands of dollars to shoot non-native species of game.

Steven Hill, 51, and Chiaki Ito, 21, both of Fairlee, face seven counts each of operating an unlicensed captive hunting facility. If convicted, the pair could lose their hunting, fishing and trapping licenses for up to three years and pay $1000 each in fines.

Fish and wildlife officials allege that Hill and Ito operated a 129-acre facility called Hunt the Ridge, where individuals paid $6000 a pop to hunt exotic wild animals as well as local ones. Among the prey: white-tail deer, buffalo, sika deer, elk, fallow deer, wild boar, Spanish goats, Texas dall sheep and moose.

How did they get busted? Undercover Vermont state game wardens paid $750 each to hunt Spanish goat and wild boar at the facility. The state has since shut down Hunt the Ridge, but 200 animals remained on the property as of last week, according to Fish and Wildlife.

The last time a captive hunting facility in Vermont made the news, it was Doug Nelson's Big Rack Ridge hunting park in Irasburg, home of the late Pete the Moose. Then Fish and Wildlife officials were worried about non-native animals spreading Chronic Wasting Disease to native deer and wildlife outside of Nelson's fenced-in reserve. So they ordered their execution. No word on the fate of the Fairlee animals. If the state does sentence them to death, we wouldn't be half surprised to see a bunch of Facebook pages sprout up encouraging us all to save Billy the Boar, Biff the Buffalo and Eduardo the Spanish goat.

facing facts

SEXY TIME

A new survey ranks Vermont No. 1 in America for "sexual health." Sure, our sex is safe — but is it good?

PIG OUT

An Essex family had to turn out three dozen "mini-pig" pets that were living in their house. So much for bringing home the bacon.

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Vermont's education commissioner is now its first-ed secretary. But Armando Vilaseca will only serve for one year. B-minus?

FIREARM FRACAS

Burlington city councilors are pursuing a plan to ban assault weapons and high-capacity clips. Cue the NRA.

FACING FACTS COMPILED BY ANDY BROMAGE

13.2

That's how many alcoholic drinks the average Burlington adult consumes per month, according to the Daily Beast, which ranked Burlington as the 25th "drunkest" city in the country.

TOP FIVE

MOST POPULAR ITEMS IN SEVEN DAYS

1. **"Best Bites of 2012"** by Alice Levitt. Two of last year's best new restaurants qualified as sequels: Bluebird Barbecue and El Cortijo.
2. **"New Year's Resolutions for Love and Lust"** by Mistress Maeve. The paper's advice columnist offers tips for a better love life in 2013.
3. **"Whatever Happened to...?"** by Seven Days staff. Updating some of the biggest stories of the year in Vermont news.
4. **"Supper Superlatives 2012"** by Alice Levitt and Corinn Hirsch. The food writers debate the best things that happened to Vermont food last year.
5. **"In With the New"** by Courtney Copp. Our guide to First Night celebrations around Vermont.

tweet of the week:

@ryanmercer1

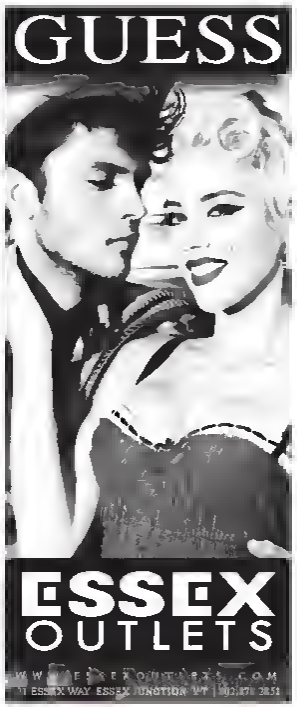
"I'm going home. I'm freezing," said person sitting on Church St. with "homeless need $$" sign. #btv



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FEEDback

READER REACTION TO RECENT ARTICLES

FIRE AWAY

A much needed article [Fair Game, "Guns 'n' Poses," December 19]. Hope the rest of Vermont's media also faces the issues set forth here.

Nicholas Clifford
MIDDLEBURY

WRONG TARGET

Referring to your statement in [Fair Game, "Guns 'n' Poses," December 19] that 16-year-olds can purchase and carry concealed handguns: Federal law requires the purchaser of a handgun to be 21 years of age; 18 for long guns.

Kerry Burke
GEORGIA

LET THEM DRIVE

I am writing in response to the Facing Facts regarding driver's licenses for undocumented Vermonters [December 19]. Though it was a short sentence with a small icon — a frowning face — it carries weight with public opinion and has done an injustice to the true issues involved. The committee's endorsement of expanding access to Vermont driver's licenses deserves nothing less than a big smiley face.

Migrant farmworkers work long hours supporting our dairy farms, isolated geographically and socially. Without a driver's license, they must rely on their employers to get to a grocery store, a health clinic, an emergency room, a bank, their place of worship and everywhere else, including the opportunity to leave abusive situations.

Many common misconceptions and fears about expanding access to driver's licenses are not accurate. Undocumented residents cannot just get a foreign license and use it here. Vermont is not creating something new. This has been done successfully in the state of Washington, which was also the first state to be certified as REAL ID compliant.

It is unacceptable that some of our Vermont neighbors — who do the very work that preserves our state's cultural identity — suffer such a violation of fundamental human rights. Expanding access to driver's licenses enhances the quality of life for us all and diminishes the rights of no one.

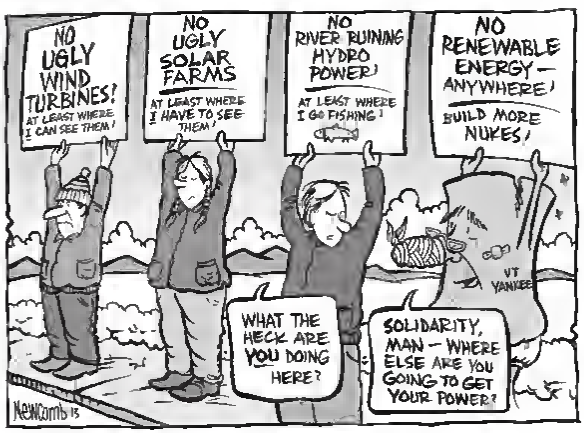
Corey Mallon, RN
BURLINGTON

Editor's note: Due to a production error, this Facing Fact item was illustrated by the incorrect emoticon. The writer intended for it to have a neutral face.

A VERMONT AUTHOR — IN DUBLIN

[Re "Meet the Authors," December 19] Your feature about writers who aren't thought of as having a Vermont connection brings to mind my daughter, Tana French, whose mysteries — *In the Woods* to *Broken Harbor* — have all been *New York Times* best sellers. She lives in Dublin and is often considered an Irish author, but she

TIM NEWCOMB





was born in Burlington and spent her first years in Craftsbury and Johnson. Surely that makes her as much of a Vermonter as a lot of the flatlanders who now claim the distinction?

David French
SHELBURNE

SOUP'S ON

How can you guys do a "soup survey" and not list Asiana Noodle House ["Soup du Jour," December 19]? They will out-soup anyone for miles around!

Bridget O'Connor
ESSEX JUNCTION

OUT OF SCALE

After reading the *Seven Days* follow-up concerning the Hartland project on Burlington's Lakeview Terrace, I have to ask Mayor Miro Weinberger: Does he really think that monstrosity fits in with the neighborhood?

Of course he doesn't. I know that I certainly cringe every time I drive by it!

A Google Maps view of Lakeview shows approximately 50 houses on that street, yet the mayor (and the Burlington Review Board, unfortunately) feel that 25 units smushed into a space that normally would have contained perhaps three single-family homes is a good use of the land. I feel sorry for the residents of that street. The parking overflow, noise and congestion are going to change that entire neighborhood forever — and to their detriment, may I add.

The belief that simply building an ever-increasing amount of housing in this city is going to solve anything is beyond ridiculous. At some point, quality-of-life issues are going to have to take center stage in these discussions.

The only people I ever hear say "we need more housing here" are developers — the ones who believe that taking every single-home, empty lot and building multiple units on it is a great idea. Oh, it's a great idea all right, for lining the pockets of the project owners.

I have lived here all my life, and I have never seen such a clusterfuck of traffic and congestion in this city as there is now. And "the Development Mayor" is apparently bound and determined to make it even worse.

Dave Parker
BURLINGTON

PARTY FAVORS

The December 26 Fair Game stated that I managed to win the race for state auditor "despite receiving little help from [my] party." This is inaccurate. In fact, there is no question in my mind that I could not have won without the support of the Democratic Party's paid staff, as well as the hard work of all the volunteers around the state. Indeed, I met many of the folks who made the phone calls, did the canvassing, placed the signs and performed all the tasks that comprise the ground game, which is so essential in a statewide race.

In addition, party leaders helped with fundraising, both directly from the congressional delegation and the governor, as well as from several county committees. Moreover, the party was very accommodating by including me in the coordinated campaign for a reduced fee. Furthermore, the Democratic Party provided assistance for a last-minute, direct-mail appeal to over 10,000 registered voters who had been identified as possible supporters.

Does this sound like I received "little help" from the party?

And for the record, while the other party (Progressive) could not match the resources of the Democrats, they, too, provided important support, including many contributions from party members, letters to the editor and signage. And finally, Sen. Sanders was extremely generous both with money and exposure on the campaign trail.

I hope this puts to rest the notion that the party was not helpful. Indeed, their assistance was decisive.

Doug Hoffer
BURLINGTON

SWEET ON SUGARMAN

Thank you for the wonderful piece on UVM professor Richard Sugarman ["The Wonderful Jew," December 12]. Professor Sugarman was one of my first college teachers, way back in 1983. He taught religion as part of Living and Learning's Integrated Humanities Program, and he remains to this day one of the more memorable and impactful teachers I've had. He was, even by my oftentimes sarcastic and cynical classmates, universally respected and appreciated. His casual mastery of the subject matter and personal, compassionate demeanor engendered in us an earnest curiosity and love for learning that has stood the test of time. He deserves the

FEEDBACK » P19

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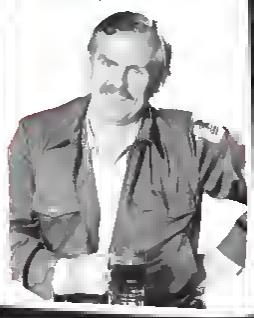
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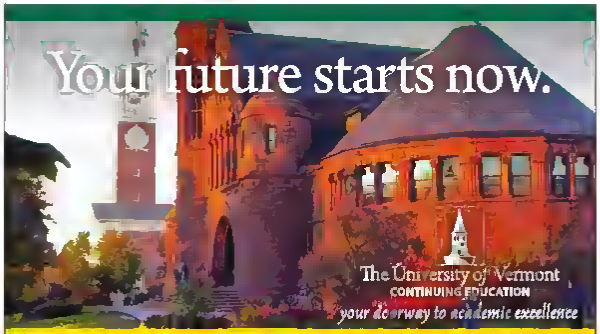
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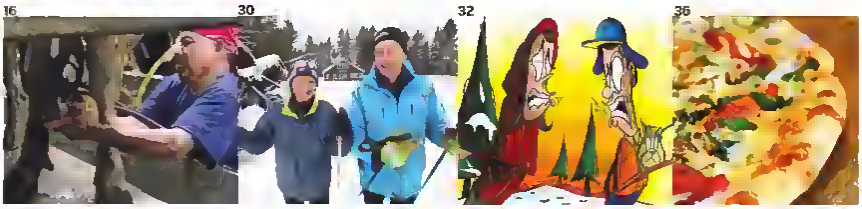
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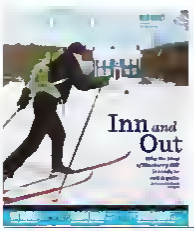
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COVER IMAGE: CALEB KENNA COVER DESIGN: ANDREW SAWTELL

VIDEO

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Stuck in Vermont: A Photographer Duo Helps Animals Find Homes

Kelly Schulze of Mountain Dog Photography volunteers weekly at the Humane Society of Chittenden County with her husband, Ian, known as "the Cat Whisperer." Together, they help strays strike an irresistible pose.



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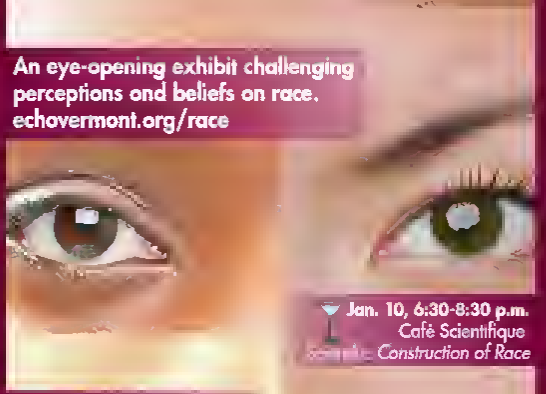
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MUST SEE, MUST DO THIS WEEK

COMPILED BY CAROLYN FOX



ONGOING

HEADSHOTS

What do the Bermuda Triangle and Steven Spielberg's childhood home have in common? Not much, except for a seven-year, multi-media project by artist **Philip Brou** based on his research into "seemingly disparate, often inane, facts from his life." His most recent addition to that project is a series of paintings called "Central Casting," featuring portraits of people who work as extras in the film industry. Two of those paintings are exhibited at Office Hours, an intimate gallery that doubles as the office of UVM art professor Pamela Fraser

SEE ART REVIEW ON PAGE 58

WEDNESDAY 9 & TUESDAY 15

GOOD EATS?

Award-winning documentarian and activist Byron Hurt does not shy away from controversial material. His most recent film, ***Soul Food Junkies***, selected to screen as part of the PBS Independent Lens offshoot Community Cinema Series, examines a cuisine strongly tied to African American culture and, in some cases, serious health problems. Using his immediate family as the narrative backbone, Hurt interviews various professionals who offer different perspectives on the issues at hand

SEE CALENDAR LISTINGS ON PAGES 40 AND 45

3

THURSDAY 10

Wild Kingdom

Gary Kowalski plays many roles — minister ementus animal activist and author among them. His new book *Blessings of the Animals* explores how meditation technology art and culture relate to the natural world In true stories that include a Buddhist beekeeper and advanced phone systems that mimic the "swarm intelligence" of ants Kowalski illustrates the intimacy of our connections with other species.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 42

4

THURSDAY 10

Forward Thinking

Ben Falk, founder of Moretowns Whole Systems Design and author of *The Resilient Farm and Homestead* practices what he preaches. Immersed in sustainable living philosophies, he builds and maintains what he calls "holistic human habitats." Falk's commitment to a harmonious existence with the land extends into education. He shares his knowledge and highlights local solutions to worldwide challenges in "Homestead Resiliency: A Green Mountain Global Forum Presentation."

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 42

5

SATURDAY 12 & TUESDAY 15

Music Man

Samuel Sakkebuffndf has rhythm — and lots of it. In addition to being a master percussionist, dancer songwriter and record ng artist, he founded the Nanda Music Cultural Organization in Uganda, where he currently serves as d rector His four week residency at Middlebury College opens with an interactive performance "Percussion and Dance Explosion" followed by a lecture later in the week entitled "Sound Movement and Ethnicity In Uganda."

SEE CALENDAR LISTINGS ON PAGES 43 AND 45

6

SATURDAY 12

Listen Up

Two-time Vermont state banjo champ Steve Light joins Todd Sagar Andy Greene Stephen Waud and Kirk Lord on the fiddle guitar mandolin and bass respectively as the **Modern Grass Quintet**. These accomplished musicians who incorporate elements of jazz into bluegrass, consider Doc Watson Sam Bush and Béla Fleck among their many influences. The group which released a self titled debut album last May performs as part of the Burnham Hall Music Series in Lincoln

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 43

7

SATURDAY 12

Powerful Pipes

The girl can sing. Kat Wright brings to the stage talent, serious style and a vocal prowess well beyond her 26 years. The lead s nger and cofounder of **Kat Wright and the Indomitable Soul Band** — an eight member powerhouse punctuated by a dynamic horn section — holds her own as she belts out originals and covers A crowd favorite at weekly Radio Bean sessions, the group expanded its aud ence at the 2012 Discover Jazz Festival and will likely do so again at Nectar's

SEE MUSIC SPOTLIGHT ON PAGE 52

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Kill Bills: Vol. 2?

Senate President Pro Tem JOHN CAMPBELL (D-Windsor) faced a potential insurrection last year for his role in an uncharacteristically dysfunctional session of the Vermont Senate.

After critics complained about his lack of organization and said he used the committee process to bottle up popular bills, several senators privately considered challenging him for the top job in the Senate. In the end, just one Democrat did — Sen. ANN CUMMINGS (D-Washington) — and she lost in a landslide.

In shoring up support for his reelection, Campbell promised to make a change. Instead of sentencing legislation he opposed to die in committee, he said he'd bring a number of hot-button bills to the floor for up-or-down votes — regardless of whether committees of jurisdiction agree.

The tactic was a risk. By doing so, he'll be usurping the authority of his committee chairmen — and, by extension, himself. And the result could be an even more chaotic legislative session than the last one.

Sen. DICK SEARS (D-Bennington), the powerful chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and a Campbell ally, says that if *his* committee is expected to release bills it doesn't support, he'll expect the same treatment from others.

"I would hope these folks are willing to bring out other people's bills and not just something *they* think is right," Sears says. "I hope this isn't just aimed at Dick Sears."

Sears' committee was a choke point last year for two bills now expected to get a floor vote: death with dignity and marijuana decriminalization. But those aren't the only controversial bills likely to see the legislative light of day in the Senate.

Advocates say they've also been promised votes on a childcare unionization bill, a three-year moratorium on ridgeline wind projects, and campaign finance reform.

"You got the sense that [Campbell] was out there saying on these hot-button issues, 'I'm going to step aside and let them move forward without all the rigmarole,'" says one top lobbyist. "It kind of became part of his summer and fall pitch for getting himself back on track, it seems."

Says another lobbyist, "John thought he had to make those deals to keep his position. But he could have managed the threats without giving away the store."

The manner in which these bills reach the floor will depend, in part, on who's appointed this week to each of the Senate's standing committees. That'll be determined by the redundantly named Committee on Committees with its three moderate insiders: Campbell, Sen. DICK MAZZA (D-Grand Isle) and Republican Lt. Gov. PHIL SCOTT.

But even if committees and their chairmen are stacked against legislation supported by a majority of the 23-member Democratic caucus, Campbell pledges, "I believe that they should come to the floor."

Just how that would happen was a focus of conversation Saturday during a meeting of Senate Democrats at Montpelier's Capitol Plaza. Huddled around a conference table in the hotel's aptly named Boardroom, caucus members debated the mechanics — and the wisdom — of bypassing Senate committees to ensure that broadly popular bills get an up-or-down vote.

> ONE PERSON CAN'T HOLD UP THE WHOLE SENATE.
> CLAIRE AYER

One skeptic was Sen. BOBBY STARR (D-Essex/Orleans), a conservative Democrat from the Northeast Kingdom.

"I've been here a long time, and we've always run strong and faithful on the committee process," Starr said. "I don't really think that the caucus should overpower the committee. If the committee has had the time and the opportunity to review legislation, and that committee says it's excellent, it means quite a lot to us."

Surprisingly, Sears — who many blame for helping Campbell gum up the works — argued that letting popular legislation die in committee "is what got us in so much trouble last year."

He added, "If it's the will of the caucus and the will of the Senate that these issues get debated on the floor, then the way to do that is to let us know early that these issues are important."

That way, Sears' committee could hold hearings and — even if it disapproves of the legislation — send the bill to the floor for an up-or-down vote. Though rarely done, the committee could move the bill forward while giving it a stamp of disapproval.

Referring to the "death with dignity" bill, Campbell told his colleagues at the caucus meeting, "It clearly caused some issues last year because it is deeply personal for a lot of us here. It's not a partisan issue. It's one of deeply personal views."

A Roman Catholic, Campbell opposes letting terminally ill patients end their own lives on religious grounds.

"But I agree that if there's a majority of people here who want to have a discussion and a debate on it, they should have the opportunity to do that," he continued. "Then it's an up-or-down situation."

Speaking several days after the caucus meeting, one prominent supporter of death with dignity, Sen. CLAIRE AYER (D-Addison), said she's encouraged by the change in tone.

"One person can't hold up the whole Senate," she said. "When we find there's a larger group of people that wants to look at something in a different way, we have to discuss it as a caucus."

Also encouraged, no doubt, is Gov. PETER SHUMLIN — but not for the reasons you may be thinking.

Sure, he told reporters in November that four of his legislative priorities this session are death with dignity, marijuana decriminalization, unionization of childcare workers and providing driver's licenses to noncitizens. No doubt he'd be happy to hold signing ceremonies this spring if the House and Senate send those bills his way.

But the real reason Shumlin will be glad to watch controversy and chaos reemerge in the Senate is this: It'll distract legislators from messing with his budget — or getting any ideas about raising broad-based taxes.

The governor often says he prefers to keep several balls in the air. But he likes it even more when legislators are too busy juggling theirs to meddle with his.

Guns Blais-ing

NORM BLAIS and THOM LAUZON don't have a lot in common.

An attorney and Democratic member of the Burlington City Council, Blais rarely rides into political battle, preferring to quietly offer advice from the sidelines. Lauzon has earned a reputation as Barre's hard-charging, outspoken Republican mayor and one of the Granite City's most prominent developers.

But this week, Blais and Lauzon found themselves doing something most

statewide politicians have assiduously avoided in the wake of last month's shooting massacre at a Connecticut elementary school.

They started conversations about gun violence in their respective cities.

What'd they learn?

"I can tell you that for the politicians that are thinking about testing the waters, it's like Huntington Gorge," Lauzon says. "It's a swift-running current."

POLITICS

Lauzon, a gun owner who considers himself a strong supporter of the right to bear arms, managed to draw the ire of gun advocates with a letter he sent last Thursday to the Barre Fish & Game Club. He urged the outfit, which organizes a gun show each year at the Barre Municipal Auditorium, to "ban the display and sale of military-style assault firearms and high-capacity magazines" at its February show.

The reaction from those on either side of the debate was strong — and mostly missed the point, he says. Rather than seeking some sort of permanent municipal ban on the sale of such weapons, Lauzon says he was simply asking the show's organizers to make a temporary change, out of respect for victims of the Connecticut shooting. And to start a conversation.

"I think, unfortunately, the message was lost," he says.

On Monday, Lauzon met with representatives of the club.

"They were very gracious, but they said, 'Thom, we're not willing to do that,'" he says. "That was the end of the discussion."

Later that evening in Burlington, Blais found himself defending a resolution he introduced calling for a charter-change to ban the sale of assault weapons and high-capacity clips in the Queen City.

Facing him in the audience at City Hall Auditorium were some 100 gun rights advocates — nearly all of them men, many of whom wore camouflage and blaze orange.

"I'm for gun control. I know you don't like that word, but I'm for a different kind of gun control: being able to hit your target," said **BOB GREEN**, one of the more colorful advocates to address the council. "It's not really good to pass feel-good legislation. What we really need to look at is mental health."

Blais argued that affirmative vote would simply start a process involving future hearings, a referendum and eventually a vote by the state legislature to approve a charter change. "There's nothing rash or precipitous about this," he said.

In the end, the council voted 10 to 3 in favor of Blais' resolution, after adding language calling on the legislature to address mental health issues, violent video games and other gun laws.

Reached the next morning, Blais said, "I'm encouraged because I think that dialogue President Obama says has to take place will take place in Burlington. How that will ultimately end here is anyone's guess, but at least we'll have the discussion."

Despite drawing the wrath of many gun-rights advocates, Lauzon says he doesn't regret raising the subject — though he was discouraged by the tone of the more extreme advocates on either side of the issue.

One man went so far as to post Lauzon's home address on his Facebook page, calling it the new practice range, Lauzon says.

"This is the kind of crap you have to go through just to start having a conversation," he says. "That's why people don't do it."

Media Notes

On the first day of the legislative session Wednesday, Vermont's political press corps will shed their notebooks to commune with those they cover at a Statehouse reception *Seven Days* is hosting in honor of the late, great political columnist **PETER FREYNE**.

The Cedar Creek shindig, appropriately titled "Off the Record," falls on the same day Freyne died four years ago. We'll raise a glass in his honor, which he'd surely appreciate.

Wednesday is also the last day on the job for WCAX-TV's Statehouse bureau chief **SUSIE STEIMLE**. Nearly two years after she joined the station, the Kalamazoo native is heading to WJAR-TV, the NBC affiliate in Providence, R.I. Steimle will be replaced in Montpelier by WCAX's **KYLE MIDURA**.

"I've had a great time over the past few years in Vermont and I feel like I've learned a lot," Steimle says. "But this offers me a new challenge."

One downside, she says. "I won't be doing so many outdoor, animal fun stories."

Don't worry, Susie. We've got that covered. ⑦

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Is "Citizen Legislature" a Misnomer? Plenty of Vermonters Can't Afford to Serve

BY PAUL HEINTZ

Mike McCarthy might look like one of the crowd when he's sworn in to the Vermont House of Representatives on Wednesday morning, but a few key differences set the rookie lawmaker apart.

At 28 years old, the St. Albans Democrat is one of the legislature's youngest members. He's also likely to be one of its busiest. Outside of his 120-mile daily commute to and from Montpelier and the legislative work that brings him there, he'll be scrambling to manage a family-owned bakery and take care of his 6-month-old daughter.

"It's an insane thing for someone with the things I have going on in my life to serve," McCarthy says.

He's doing it, he says, to bring the voice of an average citizen to Vermont's so-called "citizen legislature," which he believes fails to reflect the demographic and economic diversity of the state.

"I feel like I don't want to just be represented by a bunch of folks who haven't worked in a long time," McCarthy says.

Like 16 other states too small to demand a year-round, professional legislature, Vermont relies upon the volunteer service of representatives willing to put their work and family lives on hold four to five months each year.

Critics say that's not feasible for most Vermonters. The result, they argue, is an older, wealthier body of representatives comprised mostly of retirees and white-collar professionals.

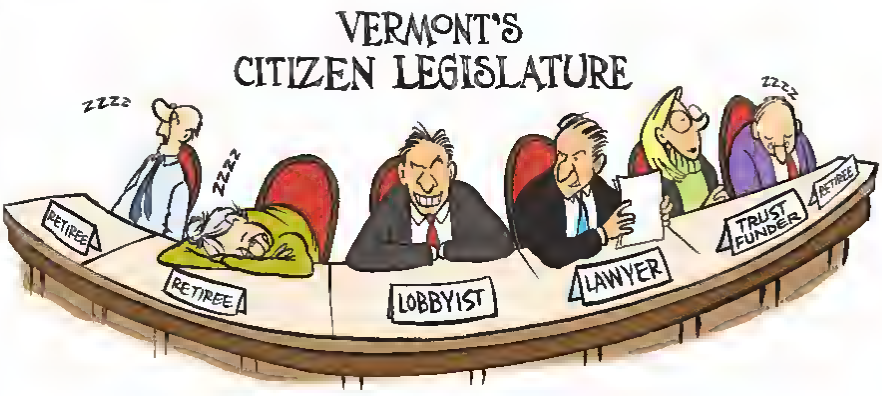
"I think it looks like a bunch of people my parents' age and older," says Adam Howard, a 39-year-old former House Republican from Cambridge. "You just don't get working family people down there. When you think about who demands the most from [state] services, they're the least represented down there. That says a lot."

Howard is one of several up-and-coming legislators who chose not to run for reelection last year, citing the competing demands of work and home. With two young daughters and a magazine publishing business, Howard says he simply couldn't hack it anymore.

"It's a real thrash," he says. "And it keeps us from serving at the utmost of our capacity."

Oliver Olsen, 36, found himself in a similar position last year when he decided to step down as the Republican representative from Jamaica. He had managed during the legislative session to scale back his hours running a consulting practice for Oracle. But with two young children at the time — his wife recently gave birth to a third — Olsen found it difficult to spend weeknights in Montpelier, two hours away from home.

"It's an interesting dichotomy because on one hand, yes, we have a citizen legislature, and that's a wonderful thing," Olsen says. "It's just, how the legislature is structured paradoxically makes it difficult for citizens to serve. It's a four-month commitment that cuts into people's lives."



By law, businesses are required to grant employees unpaid leaves of absence during the legislative session. And lawmakers earn around $650 a week while they're serving in Montpelier — plus compensation of $101 a night for lodging, $61 per day for meals and 56 cents per mile between their home and the capital.

But the demands of public service don't stop with the end of the session.

"I would say in campaigning alone, I probably gave up $10,000 to $15,000 worth of business, which is as much as I'm going to make working down here this year," says Democrat John Rodgers, a stone mason and excavator from Glover, who served eight years in the House and last year won a seat in the Senate.

Vermont's legislative calendar was built to accommodate the state's agrarian founders, who could sneak away from the farm during the slow days of winter. But modern-day seasonal workers like Rodgers can't afford to take off any of the professional hats they wear.

So on snowy days during the session, Rodgers wakes up at 3:30 in the morning to plow 30 driveways before heading down to Montpelier.

"You just basically cram in the hours," he says.

The tension between Vermont's citizen legislature and its demands on officeholders is nothing new. In 1988, then-representative Megan Price lamented to the *New York Times* that, "the length of the sessions recently is a strain for anyone who is not retired or rich."

In the same story, then-House Speaker Ralph Wright wondered whether Vermont's system of governance by one's peers would survive into the 21st century.

"I'm not optimistic that two decades from now, you're going to find a citizen legislature in Vermont," he said at the time.

Twenty-five years later, it's still in place.

But skeptics like former House majority leader Lucy Leriche, a Democrat from Hardwick, wonder whether it's sustainable. Leriche is particularly worried about the growing disparity between legislative pay and the cost of living.

"I think our citizen legislature is in jeopardy," she says. "It's getting harder and harder for the average Vermonter to serve. I see my colleagues leaving the legislature or deciding not to run at all because they can't forgo the income of a regular job in order to do it."

When Leriche announced she would not seek reelection last May, she was unequivocal about the reason. She needed to make more money. After four terms in the House, she felt she could no longer ask her partner to carry their household's financial weight. So she took a contract with Green Mountain Power and, last week, landed a full-time gig in the Shumlin administration as deputy secretary of the Department of Commerce and Community Development, earning $92,560.

Leriche believes the solution is "a modest increase" in legislative pay. With the state budget tight and many Vermont families strapped for cash, Leriche acknowledges, "It's a difficult environment to ask for more money, but I think it's going to be necessary at some point to pay legislators a little more."

Rep. Don Turner (R-Milton), the House minority leader, agrees that there's a problem but he doesn't think increased pay is the solution. Instead, he says, legislators should get their work done faster and limit themselves to debating fewer bills.

"The first week or two, we're going

to do not much but ceremonial stuff," he says. "Until the budget comes out, there's not much the committees are doing."

Howard agrees.

"So much of what hits committee and hits the floor is just make-work silliness that keeps 90 percent of the body occupied while the other 10 percent do all the backroom heavy lifting," he says. "If you had a shorter session and took up fewer bills, you'd have more people doing real work."

Another option, says Olsen, might be to schedule some committee meetings at night or over the weekend — or use technology to allow members to meet from afar. Floor action, he says, could be limited to once every week or two.

One former House Republican, Jim Eckhardt of Chittenden, says he thinks the legislative calendar should take into account school vacations. During the single term he served, Eckhardt decided to take his family on out-of-state trips during his children's February and April vacations.

He paid the price for that when, in the closing days of his reelection campaign last November, the Vermont Democratic House Campaign sent postcards to voters criticizing him for missing votes during those weeks.

"For someone who works so hard, to get blasted like that doesn't set well," says Eckhardt, who owns a home security business. "But I wasn't going to put my kids on the back burner — or my wife."

One result of the legislature's family-unfriendly schedule, argues Rep. Sarah Buxton (D-Tunbridge), is a paucity of mothers with school-age children.

"We still have a gender divide in the Statehouse that isn't men and women, but it's mothers with children versus everybody else," she says. "Those are voices we could and should have more of."

POLITICS

> I FEEL LIKE I DON'T WANT TO JUST BE REPRESENTED BY A BUNCH OF FOLKS WHO HAVEN'T WORKED IN A LONG TIME.
>
> REP. MIKE MCCARTHY

Like McCarthy, Buxton is one of seven House members under the age of 35. She says her hectic legislative lifestyle has impacted her own decisions about whether to start a family. So far, she has not.

"Who's the man who would be willing to let me continue to spend three nights a week away from home and care for an infant? That's a pretty big question mark," she says. "I do think that has influenced my decisions over the past several years about settling down and making family choices."

House Speaker Shap Smith (D-Morrisville) agrees that it's tough for legislators to balance work, home and political life. But, he contends, "It's a problem that's not unique to the legislature. It's a problem that exists throughout our society."

Smith knows a thing or two about juggling responsibilities. His wife is a doctor and he's an attorney; they have two children in elementary school.

"I think if we didn't have a lot of family around, we wouldn't be able to do it," he says. "For the last four years, I have frequently wondered whether I would run again because of the pressures I put not only on my wife, but on my kids."

Nevertheless, Smith says he's not convinced the legislature should make any changes to its schedule. For one thing, he thinks the number of competitive races in any given year shows that plenty of people still want to run.

He adds, "I actually think that our legislature does reflect Vermont to a large degree. Does it reflect it perfectly? Probably not, but I think it does to a large degree."

And if the difficulties of serving lead members to retire, maybe that's not such a bad thing, Smith suggests.

"It means that the composition of the legislature changes more frequently in Vermont than other places, because people don't sort of get into the legislature and settle in for decades," he says. "It can freshen up the place." ⑦

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AGRICULTURE

A farmworker from *Hide*

Midd Kids' Documentary Shows How Vermont Dairy Workers Get Milked

BY KEN PICARD

A new documentary film shines light on a continuing problem: the harsh conditions endured by undocumented immigrants who labor invisibly on Vermont's dairy farms. The release this month of *Hide* comes as lawmakers returning to Montpelier prepare to tackle controversial legislation on immigrant rights.

Next week, a legislative study committee will release a report recommending that Vermont allow foreign-born workers to obtain drivers' licenses or state identification cards regardless of their immigration status.

The 30-minute documentary, which juxtaposes shots of Vermont's bucolic landscapes with the dark and grimy conditions on local dairy farms, could end up boosting the efforts of immigrant-rights groups at the Statehouse. But first-time filmmakers Peter Coccoma and Elori Kramer say that *Hide* has no hidden agenda other than bringing the stories of Vermont's estimated 1200 to 1500 undocumented farmworkers to a broader audience.

"Some of the activism [around migrant-worker issues] has become overly political and alienated a lot of people," says Kramer, 22, a senior at Middlebury College who hails from Minneapolis. "We didn't want to point fingers. We just wanted to ask the questions."

Among those questions: Why do conditions for the dairy workers remain so abysmal, despite widespread knowledge of their presence in Vermont?

For those familiar with the subject, *Hide* doesn't break a lot of new ground in its depiction of life in Vermont's dairy industry. But it documents how little those conditions have improved since June 2003, when *Seven Days* published the first expose on Vermont's foreign-born farm laborers.

Coccoma, 23, a Cooperstown, NY, native who graduated from Middlebury College last May, says that all the people interviewed in the film describe the "same sense of monotony and stagnation in their lives," as well as a universal feeling of being "beaten down and worn out." One migrant worker reports having worked on 30 to 35 farms across the country, only two farmers treated him with compassion and respect.

Filmed on about a dozen unidentified farms in Addison, Chittenden and Franklin counties, *Hide* provides up-close and personal interviews with three farmers and 10 workers who perform some of Vermont's most menial, grueling and hazardous labor.

The workers range in age from their early 20s to mid 30s. All are migrant workers from Mexico, Guatemala and other Latin American countries who entered the country illegally. Because most have no means of leaving the farms or are wary of doing so for fear of getting arrested and deported, they work virtually around the clock, seven days a week, for years on end. In the film, they describe a monotonous existence made more challenging by loneliness, exhaustion, depression, poor health and isolation from families and friends back home.

"I don't know what day it is today," says one Spanish-speaking laborer in the film. "You don't *need* to know what day it is."

Another describes working 10 hour shifts without a meal or break. "Maybe they don't know it, but we are not machines," he complains.

Still another farmworker tells the filmmakers he has a brother working on another Vermont farm, 20 minutes away by car, but may go months or years without seeing him because it costs half a day's salary for the taxi fare.

Coccoma and Kramer produced *Hide* on a $3000 grant from Middlebury College and filmed it over the summer. Coccoma says they first learned about the plight of Vermont's dairy workers in their college classes. But they realized, as Kramer puts it, "The only people reading our papers were our professors."

"I was familiar with [the subject matter] beforehand, but only in an academic sense," Kramer adds. "But waking up at 3 a.m. to meet the workers at the start of their first milking shift ... put it in a whole new light."

Two years ago, Coccoma landed an internship with Migrant Justice, a Burlington-based nonprofit that works to improve conditions for the state's undocumented

farmworkers. He speaks fluent Spanish and formed relationships with several of the workers featured in the film during his internship, so many were willing to appear and speak candidly on camera. Some even identify themselves by name.

The farm owners were more camera-shy, Coccoma notes, for fear of legal repercussions.

Migrant Justice's Brendan O'Neill, who collaborated on the documentary, says that *Hide* is beautifully filmed and edited. He says it will "intentionally provoke consumers" to ponder where their milk and other dairy products come from. But while Migrant Justice helped the filmmakers connect with local farmers and laborers, O'Neill insists he had no direct input into the film's content, nor was it produced as a lobbying tool to support upcoming legislation.

Coccoma says he was inspired by those workers he met who, despite obvious and considerable personal risks, use what little free time they have each week to meet, organize and become politically active.

"They become animated all of a sudden," he says about workers' gatherings in local libraries and churches. When they get together and suddenly discover a community of others like themselves, he says, "They come to life. It's transformative."

That political activism produced a victory in December, when a legislative study committee voted 8-to-1 to recommend that workers be granted the right to apply for drivers' licenses and other state identification cards. State Sen. Phil Baruth (D-Chittenden) says he's already drafted legislation to that effect and plans to introduce it on the first day of the session. Gov. Peter Shumlin has already indicated his willingness to sign such a bill.

Baruth explains that it's critical that these driver's licenses be "physically indistinguishable" from other state IDs because he doesn't want to create a subclass or "scarlet license" that instantly raises questions about someone's immigration status. Vermont State Police policy prohibits troopers from asking suspected immigrants about their status unless evidence of another crime is present.

Baruth's bill would require people to provide the Department of Motor Vehicles with up to three forms of identification — foreign passport, consulate ID, driver's license from another country or certificate of birth, adoption or divorce — and proof of residency. The latter could be verified with medical bills, a bank statement, or two pieces of mail bearing the applicant's name and Vermont address. Baruth says he's been told that law enforcement in other states with similar provisions report the licenses have had the desired effect.

"The irony is that people who oppose this say that somehow this will make us less safe," Baruth says. "This makes it very easy if [police] conduct a roadside stop to know exactly who they're dealing with, what their history and what their situation in the state is," he says. "All those things make for greater health and safety for the workers but also greater health and safety for the rest of the community."

THE FILMMAKERS SAY THAT *HIDE* HAS NO HIDDEN AGENDA OTHER THAN BRINGING THE STORIES OF VERMONT'S ESTIMATED 1200 TO 1500 UNDOCUMENTED FARMWORKERS TO A BROADER AUDIENCE.

Among those who oppose this legislation is Sen. Peg Flory (R-Rutland), who chaired the summer study committee. Flory, who was the lone dissenting vote against allowing undocumented workers to obtain drivers' licenses, suggests that doing so could diminish the acceptability and validity of Vermont licenses in other states. She points out that it's very difficult, if not impossible, to conduct background checks on foreign-born workers, especially those who don't have driver's licenses in their home countries.

"Driving is a privilege, not a right," Flory adds, noting that Vermont denies that same privilege to citizens who have too many points on their license, haven't paid child support or have committed other offenses. She calls it hypocritical to deny a license to someone who fails to pay child support but not to one who enters the country illegally.

"I have a problem with that," Flory says.

But as the workers in *Hide* explain, gaining the ability to get off the farm and do something most Vermonters take for granted, such as visiting a bank or grocery store, would go a long way toward improving their overall quality of life. Says one worker in the film, who dreams about walking down the street like everyone else without fear: "That would be beautiful." ⑦

Hide premieres Tuesday, January 29, 7:30 p.m. in room 232 at the Axinn Center, Middlebury College. A Q&A with the filmmakers follows.

A second showing is scheduled for February 20, 7 p.m. at the Film House, Main Street Landing. Donations requested.



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- ☑ Have diabetes or hypertension, or
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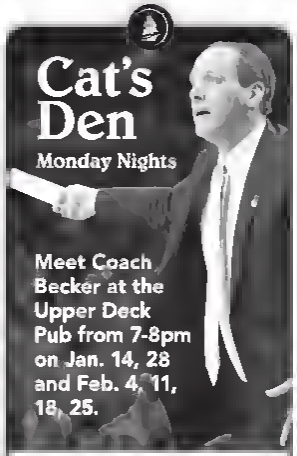
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Senate Dems Elect Phil Baruth Majority Leader

The drama-prone Senate Democratic caucus elected new leadership last Saturday in a meeting that went remarkably smoothly.

Huddled around a conference table at Montpelier's Capitol Plaza, the 23-member caucus selected Sen. Phil Baruth (D-Chittenden) as majority leader and Sen. Claire Ayer (D-Addison) as assistant majority leader. Both were elected by voice vote — without opposition.

Baruth's selection as the party's consensus seeker and enforcer signaled a remarkable turnaround for a relatively junior and liberal member who distinguished himself last session — his first — as a voice of opposition and, at times, obstruction. But Baruth's fellow senators appeared to accept the Burlington Democrat's pledge to put the priorities of the caucus before his own.

Oh, and nobody else wanted the job.

Even after securing his new position, Baruth sought in brief remarks to allay his colleagues' concerns that he might use it to rock the legislative boat.

"I certainly feel strongly about what I believe in. Like everybody else, I want to implement changes. That's why I got elected," he said. "That said, my priority every single day will be the caucus and not what I happen to be thinking of that morning for myself and my agenda."



PAUL HEINTZ 2012

Phil Baruth

Alex MacLean, Two Other Democratic Operatives Land New Jobs

Two months after Election Day, three Democratic operatives have landed new gigs in and out of Vermont politics.

Alex MacLean, a veteran staffer and two-time campaign manager for Gov. Peter Shumlin, was hired Monday by Jay Peak owners Bill Stenger and Ariel Quiros to serve as a project manager for their proposed $600 million Northeast Kingdom Development Initiative.

The Peacham native says she'll be charged with directing community relations and recruiting foreign investors for the ambitious project, which includes expansions at Jay Peak and Burke Mountain Resort; the development of a convention center, window factory and biotechnology campus in Newport; and an expansion of the Newport State Airport in Coventry.

"She's invested in the project because she's from this area and cares deeply about the region," Stenger says. "She's just a very focused, intelligent, hardworking person. And those are the kinds of people we need to make these projects work."



MacLean



Emerson

MacLean and Stenger both say she will not be engaged in lobbying, though she may coordinate an investor recruitment trip to Florida next month.

"The fact that Alex knows [Vermont lawmakers] isn't a hindrance, of course, but we're not asking her to do things [at the Statehouse]," Stenger says.

Meanwhile, the Vermont Democratic Party has brought on two up-and-coming operatives who distinguished themselves during the 2012 campaign season. Ryan Emerson, who managed T.J. Donovan's unsuccessful primary campaign for attorney general and Beth Pearce's successful campaign for state treasurer, will serve as both communications director and field director.

Nick Charyk, who drew accolades during the 2012 election as director of the Vermont Democratic House Campaign, will become VDP's political director.

Leahy Backs Hagel for Defense Sec.; Sanders Withholds Judgment

President Barack Obama didn't formally announce his controversial pick for defense secretary until 1:20 p.m. Monday, but Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) had already weighed in. He offered his support for former senator Chuck Hagel in a press release issued at 11:07 a.m.

Calling Hagel "a person of great ability and integrity," Leahy said the Nebraska Republican was the right person to lead the Pentagon as Congress pares back its funding.

"He is a combat veteran who still carries shrapnel in his body from his wounds — he will not need on-the-job training," Leahy added in the written statement. "I will support his nomination with enthusiasm, and I have passed that on to the president."



COURTESY OF U.S. DEPT. OF DEFENSE

Chuck Hagel

Several top Senate Republicans — and privately, even some Democrats — have panned Hagel's nomination, taking issue with past comments he made on Israel, Iran and gays.

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) — who, like Leahy, will vote on Hagel's nomination if it reaches the Senate floor — did not immediately offer his support.

"Sen. Sanders looks forward to speaking with former Sen. Hagel about the important issues facing the Defense Department and listening to his testimony as part of the Senate confirmation process," Sanders spokesman Michael Briggs said in a written statement. "At this point, it is too early in the process for him to make a decision as to how he will vote."

Similarly, Sanders withheld judgment Monday on Obama's other national security pick of the day: his nomination of White House counterterrorism adviser John Brennan to serve as director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Brennan, too, has drawn criticism from those who question whether he was involved in the use of "enhanced interrogation" during the Bush administration.

But Leahy says he's ready to back Brennan as well. "They have had running jokes about being big Irish bald guys," Leahy spokesman David Carle explains.

— PAUL HEINTZ

recognition not only for this but for the fact that, in the 30 years since I sat in his class, he seems to not have aged a year.

Matt Rushford
WILLISTON

MIRO'S MISTAKES

Here we go again with Mayor Miro Weinberger wanting to impose his "vision" on Burlington's future with an attempt to circumvent the public's will by seeking exception from Act 250 ["Weinberger Wants Year-Round Waterfront Action, but Some Neighbors Are Wary," December 19]. This would allow only paying customers access to our common property and change this place of peace to a capital venture. The purported lack of objection is in fact a lack of a mechanism for public input.

I address this topic with an already disgruntled attitude toward the mayor because, prior to his election, he was a principal of the Hartland Group and was able to overcome environmental issues, as well as neighborhood objections to construct a "cruise ship" condo complex completely out of character in a historic district of Burlington. Most offensively, he has tended to dismiss dissent as a NIMBY reflex rather than actually listening to valid concerns. A handpicked group should not be allowed to determine the use of our remarkable and unique waterfront.

Ann Geer
BURLINGTON

PEOPLE ARE THE PROBLEM

[Re Fair Game "Guns 'n' Poses," December 19]: I am an outdoorsman who enjoys hunting and fishing. I am for restrictions on assault rifles for the sport of just "playing army or fighting-type games." The rules will have to be well thought out and implemented in a fair manner. Police departments and other organizations should reserve the right of use. My issue with the whole gun-control discussion is the lack of focus on the mental conditions of the individuals committing the shootings. When an individual has a mental condition such as paranoid schizophrenia or another disease, they may be susceptible to committing a violent crime. The Brady Act basically states that if a person is a threat to themselves or others, they can be institutionalized by someone else. I have a friend who committed his son. It is not an easy act to implement.

Bob Belisle
BURLINGTON

TAKE AIM AT THE NRA

[Re Fair Game, "Guns 'n' Poses," December 19]: If only our governor and congressional delegation would display a fraction of the courage shown by the Newtown teachers! It's appalling that in a week when we saw women sacrifice their lives to protect school children, our elected officials were only concerned with protecting their political careers. When will they develop a backbone and stand up to the NRA?

Sarah Albert
PLAINFIELD

GO, GARY

I just read the article featuring my friend and colleague Gary De Carolis ["Magical History Tour," December 12]. It's a great article and, knowing his talents and great personality, Gary is the perfect fit to lead such a tour! Good luck, Gary, and best wishes on your new path.

Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs
PORCUPINE S.D.

STACKS AGAINST US?

I believe you're jeopardizing the safety and health of the folks who want to use the library for what it is meant to be ["As Burlington's Library Becomes a Haven for the Homeless, Librarians Adapt to a Changing Job," December 12]. How many of these people are mentally ill? Will they become harmful to the patrons of the library? You might experience a catastrophe there someday: stabbings, shootings and even pedophiles. Come on, hasn't political correctness gone too far when a minority of people is making the public fearful of public places? The majority loses.

Burlington is so progressive it doesn't know right from wrong anymore.

Oh yeah, can you count the bedbugs in the library? I will never set foot in the library again unless someone grows a spine and says no to these people. Where are the churches?

Debra Bessette
HANOVER P.A.
Bessette is a native Burlingtonian.

JUSTICE FOR WHOM?

[Re Feedback, "Help for Crime Victims," December 26]: I hope I'm not a victim of crime, but if I am, I hope the police apprehend the criminal and bring them to justice. I wouldn't want to be contacted by Burlington's Parallel Justice program because it would feel like I had been victimized twice.

Matt Galloway
HINESBURG

BEAVER FEVER



Beaver defenders got busy after Kathryn Flagg's December 19 story about efforts to eradicate the animals from University of Vermont property. "UVM Sets Kill Traps for Dam-Building Beavers in Centennial Woods." Their protests convinced UVM to pull the beaver traps — at least for the time being. The university plans to reconsider the issue after classes reconvene on January 14.

It was both disheartening and disappointing to learn of the University of Vermont's decision to trap and kill the beavers at Centennial Woods in painful, body-gripping, conibear traps versus seeking out more humane methods. Like most traps, conibears are indiscriminate, so dogs and other nontarget animals, including endangered wildlife, can also fall victim.

The dichotomy between adjunct professor O'Connor's respect for nature and the university's heartless decision is unfortunate, and I believe that most people share O'Connor's viewpoint, based on the community's rumblings. As evidenced by O'Connor's students, viewing wildlife in action is an awe-inspiring event for most people.

There are certainly more humane methods available such as the beaver deceiver (or beaver baffler), which is a nonlethal device developed by a native Vermonter. These devices are used quite effectively by government agencies and private citizens around the country to mitigate any flooding caused by beaver dams, including at the Indian Brook Reservoir in Essex.

I hope the university rethinks its decision and does the right thing for the community, its students and the animals.

Brenna Galdenzi
STOWE
Galdenzi is a volunteer intern coordinator at Green Mountain Animal Defenders.

The news of UVM's use of conibear traps to kill local beavers is upsetting for many reasons. It is cruel, likely to prove ineffective and undervalues the benefits beavers provide to the local landscape.

UVM has chosen to use the conibear trap, which often kills beavers slowly and painfully. It also kills without discretion. There are countless stories of family dogs suffering gruesome deaths in the metal jaws of these traps. While dogs may not be a primary concern in Centennial Woods, UVM's traps are sure to kill additional wildlife in the same horrific manner.

Moreover, the traps are likely to fail in their objective as it is probable that even if the current beavers are killed, more will move into the same area.

The indiscriminate killing also undermines the benefit of beaver activities and beaver ponds, which create and sustain wetlands, protect ecosystems and support biodiversity.

If we cannot coexist with the beavers, we must at least explore more humane methods for dealing with this issue. There are multiple ways in which we can prevent possible harm without applying lethal techniques, including bafflers or levelers, which control the water level without disturbing the beavers.

The solution UVM has produced is no solution at all — it is merely further destruction of the delicate ecosystem the university purports to care about. It is my hope that those responsible for this decision will use empathy, facts and humane alternatives to reconsider their "solution" to this issue.

Meg York
ROYALTON

It's surprising that UVM groundskeepers at a putative research university with an active environmental program should find it necessary to kill one, possibly several, beavers when minimal research and foresight could have provided several opportunities to allow the animals to live.

Field naturalist Teage O'Connor, whose classes benefited from close observation of these beavers, points out that there are alternatives — beaver bafflers or beaver deceivers — that might have preserved beaver lives had grounds personnel even considered the possibility of a future problem and a humane solution. In any case, as he further notes, it is unlikely that the beavers would have stayed or returned after this winter because of the limited resources surrounding their pond.

I have already been in touch with the Beavers, Wetlands & Wildlife group here in upstate New York for some ideas and resources that UVM caretakers might want to consider. The biologist at BWW, Sharon Brown, also provided the name of a professional baffler installer in Vermont (among several), I will forward this information to Rick Paradis, director of the UVM Natural Areas Center, to further forward to the appropriate person as, in the article, he disclaims responsibility for that particular area of the campus grounds.

Recommended reading for those who value the environment and the animals that contribute to it is *Beaversprite: My Years Building an Animal Sanctuary* by Dorothy Richards, as is the BWW newsletter. These might also be of interest to beaver "eradicators."

Greg Wuesthoff
PLATTSBURGH N.Y.

REAL-TIME RANTING AND RAVING

Imagine if you didn't have to wait to leave the theater to critique, summarize or recommend a live performance. What would you say — using 140 characters or less, of course?

With "Tweet Seats," a balcony block at the **FLYNN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS** reserved for people who want to live-tweet a live show, the Twitterly inclined can have at it. Just what they'll tweet during a show by guitarists David Hidalgo and Marc Ribot on January 26 remains to be seen.

The Flynn's decision to debut Tweet Seats at the Hidalgo/Ribot show, says marketing communications manager **KEVIN TITTERTON**, "is really an experiment to see how people enjoy it."



The Flynn isn't the first performing arts center to adopt the concept. In Florida, the Palm Beach Opera offers Tweet Seats at final dress rehearsals. Admission is free for these tweeters in exchange for their live coverage of each event. Titterton says the Palm Beach program has "gotten really good feedback."

It may seem counterintuitive for a performance venue to encourage in-theater social-media activity — and the practice is likely to offend those who stifle rage when a cellphone rings during a show. But, in Titterton's view, the program offers potential benefits: getting the word out about interesting performances in real time and piquing the interest of younger, more tech-savvy audience members. "For performing arts centers to evolve, we have to involve new media," he says.

Plus, Titterton says, the Tweet Seats' placement in the balcony should keep the glowing screens and tapping fingers from distracting other audience members.

For the trial run later this month, Titterton offered comped seats to some of the Flynn's more active Twitter followers. He's expecting about 14 people to live-tweet the guitarists' "Border Music" concert. If the program takes off, he says, the Flynn will provide applications for prospective tweeters at select shows in the future.

Titterton says they're starting with a music concert — Hidalgo is the lead guitarist and vocalist for Los Lobos, and Ribot is renowned for his Los Cubanos Postizos — because tweeters can appreciate the sounds even when they're craned over their smartphones. "You don't have to have your eyes on the performance the way you do in a dance or theater performance," he suggests.

The guitarists, who have inspired music legends including Elvis Costello, Tom Waits, T-Bone Burnett and Robert Plant, have been notified that some audience members will be tweeting throughout their set. "We run this in front of the agent ahead of time," says Titterton.

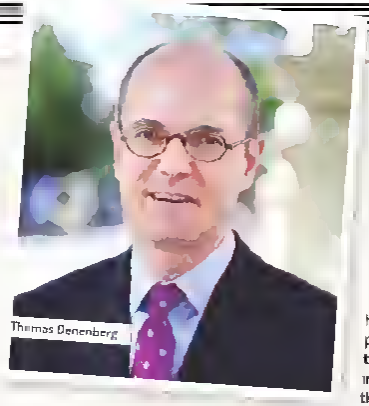
He's keeping an open mind about how the community might respond to Tweet Seats. "It needs to be fruitful," Titterton says. "It can't just be a silly gimmick."

MEGAN JAMES

DAVID HIDALGO & MARC RIBOT
"Border Music," Saturday, January 26, 8 p.m., at Flynn MainStage in Burlington. $15-36. flynntix.org

HOMER RUN

Geographically speaking, the great American artist Winslow Homer (1836–1910) is associated with the coast of Maine, not with New England's "left coast." But **SHELBURNE MUSEUM** director **THOMAS DENENBERG** has provided the landscape painter with a posthumous, if tenuous, link to Vermont with the extensive and informative — and award-winning — exhibition catalog for *Weatherbeaten: Winslow Homer and Maine*, which Denenberg cowrote and edited. So what if that recently concluded exhibit was presented by the Portland Museum of Art, where Denenberg was employed as deputy director and chief curator before he came to the Shelburne in November 2011? The New England Book Festival saw fit to declare the catalog a 2012 winner in the Art category.



COURTESY OF SHELBURNE MUSEUM

Thomas Denenberg

It so happens that Denenberg is a Winslow Homer scholar. And it's a shame that most Vermont art lovers may not see *Weatherbeaten*, titled after a painting of the same name that depicts a wave crashing against Maine seacoast rocks (though it is available in hardcover on Amazon). Denenberg's writing is both lucid and poetic. About that eponymous painting, he writes that Homer eschewed romance "in favor of painting a life lesson for the modern era, a visual poem about time and constancy."

Denenberg explains that the PMA exhibit was a "public capstone of a six-year project at the Portland Museum of Art." Specifically, that project was to purchase and restore Homer's former studio — once a carriage house on the property owned by family at the edge of the ocean, and minutes from the museum. (Visitors to the exhibition had the option to tour the studio as well as viewing the paintings, amassed from public and private collections around the country.)

Denenberg suggests that Homer's works might be the fulcrum to modernism in the United States." The exhibit examined, he adds, "that moment when all the figures retreated from Winslow Homer's paintings." Indeed, though it's subtle, a close observer can detect an abstraction of the real in Homer's rendering of the shore where, Denenberg writes, "the Atlantic Ocean laps, murmurs, and roars with the seasons."

Novelist and art essayist John Updike, Denenberg says, had a friend who lived across the road from the Homer property and visited frequently. Denenberg had occasion to talk with Updike about the place and the artist's legacy in American painting. "We discussed the critical themes of the exhibit," he says. Unfortunately, Updike died in 2009, three years before the show came to fruition.

Vermonters are not likely to see a reprise of such an exhibit — which Denenberg calls a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" — at the Shelburne Museum. But local art lovers might look forward to his commentary on the museum's upcoming focus on three generations of painters named Wyeth, in an exhibit provocatively titled "Wyeth Vertigo," later this year.

PAMELA POLSTON

WEATHERBEATEN: WINSLOW HOMER AND MAINE
Exhibition catalog edited by Thomas A. Denenberg, published by Yale University Press. 184 pages. $24.75.

Blowing It: Wind Players Take Center Stage in an Unusual BCO Concert

BY AMY LILLY



The **BURLINGTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** is redefining "chamber" for its next concert. Founded in 2007 primarily as a strings group, the BCO chose Saturday night's program to highlight its nine wind-instrument players.

"Winds are always kind of tucked away in the back of the orchestra," explains **ALAN PARSHLEY**, a horn player with the BCO as well as the **VERMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**. Parshley is the new head of the BCO musicians' committee, which selects programming. This concert's opening piece includes four string players, but otherwise the program features the group's talented flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and horn players.

Paring down the ensemble, Parshley adds, also enables the BCO to stage a full concert in what he calls "these hard economic times." Indeed, according to flute player **BERTA FRANK**, the group recently was "not sure we were going to make it." Particularly missed is its energetic former musicians' committee head, violist Ana Ruesink, who recently left for an extended stay in England.

But, says Frank, the group's "energy" was too "wonderful" for players to let it fold. And she notes, "We're Burlington's only truly local professional orchestra." (Half the VSO's players come from out of state.)

Ah, for the old, secure days of royal court patronage — the era, as it happens, that gave birth to the wind ensemble. Haydn and others had written the odd piece for small, all-wind groups in the early 18th century, but when the Austrian emperor Joseph II decided in 1782 that he wanted his dinners accompanied by a wind octet, courts all over Europe started following his lead. To meet the sudden demand for *Harmoniemusik*, as the new wind-ensemble music was called, composers started to turn out (or approve) wind-only arrangements of their work.

It was a boon for Mozart and others — a way of popularizing their best melodies without needing to drag their patrons to full-scale operas and concerts. Mozart also cleverly lampooned the whole trend in the last act of his 1787 opera *Don Giovanni*. The Don enjoys his final dinner, before being dragged down to hell, accompanied by a wind ensemble that plays an aria from another Mozart opera, *The Magic Flute*. "I've heard this once too often," Giovanni grumbles.

> WINDS ARE ALWAYS KIND OF TUCKED AWAY IN THE BACK OF THE ORCHESTRA.
> ALAN PARSHLEY

Saturday's audience is less likely to complain when the BCO plays the very same thing: selections from *Flute* arranged by Mozart's contemporary, Joseph Heidenreich, for an ensemble made up of pairs of oboes, clarinets, bassoons and horns.

The octet comes in the middle of a neatly numerical program, between a septet by Franz Berwald and a nonet by Charles Gounod.

Gounod is better known for his "Ave Maria" aria than for the Petite Symphonie he wrote in 1885 for wind octet plus flute, to honor his friend, a flautist at the Paris Conservatory. "There's a lot of different colors in [the piece]," says Frank, who will be playing the solo-like flute part. "[Gounod] really knows how to paint with instruments. A lot of operatic composers don't know how to do that."

On the other hand, the Swedish composer Berwald — "not a household name," Parshley admits — is pretty much only known for his 1828 septet. One reason is the piece's unusual combination of violin, viola, cello and double bass with three lower-range winds: clarinet, horn and bassoon. The absence of flute and oboe makes for a "mellow, rich, warm, dark sound," Parshley says.

All three pieces are melodic and accessible, as BCO's programming typically is. For 21st-century patrons — the audiences — the concert is an easy and fun choice.

No less so for the musicians. Wind ensembles, Frank enthuses, have "so much texture and, what's the word — I need more nouns in my life! — the word is *timbre*. Your color palette is a lot more varied. You get to have more fun." ⑦

i Burlington Chamber Orchestra winds "7 @ 9" concert on Saturday January 12, 8 p.m. at McCarthy Arts Center at St. Michaels College in Colchester. $25, $10 students. flynntix.org

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Quick Lit: the Mindful Field Guide

BY MARGOT HARRISON

BOOKS

In January, our minds turn to books about mindfulness OK, maybe not all of us — but New Year's resolutions and long, dark nights tend to incline readers in that direction Two 2012 releases from Vermont authors explore the contemplative life in radically different ways. One is poetic and sometimes esoteric, studded with Chinese characters; the other is brightly illustrated and confessional

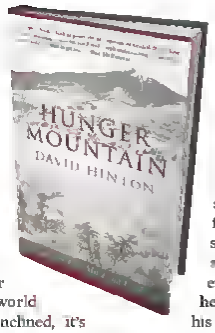
Unlikely as it may seem, Vermont is home to two mountain-dwelling men named David who write poetry directly inspired by the sages of ancient China. **DAVID BUDBILL** is perhaps the more familiar to locals But **DAVID HINTON** of East Calais is both a poet and a much-lauded translator of classical Chinese poetry and philosophy, including the *Tao Te Ching* and the *Analects of Confucius* In 2004, we wrote about his innovative *Fossil Sky*, a poem in the form of 54-inch-square "lyrical map" that can be read in any sequence one chooses

Now Hinton has produced *Hunger Mountain: A Field Guide to Mind and Landscape*, a slim paperback from Shambhala Publications that, like *Fossil Sky*, is several things at once It's a record of Hinton's autumn walks on the titular mountain near his home. It's a primer on ancient Chinese intellectual concepts — which Hinton calls "secular, and yet deeply spiritual" — with etymologies of the corresponding graphic characters And, frequently, Hinton's prose flowers from erudition into something resembling both poetry and prayer

Take the chapter devoted to the concept of "cosmos." It begins with Hinton seated on his terrace, "wasting time easily in the sun." From there, he proceeds to a discussion of the character representing cosmos, which Hinton translates more literally as "space-time" or, even more literally, as "breath-seed-home." But, just as Hinton begins drifting toward mystical reverie on the life force, he returns, as always, to the concrete "Passing the garden, charmed by drunken bees dozing on the blossom's sun-warmed whorl of sticky-sweet seeds, we look into a blazing sunflower's huge gaze, keeping alive that moment the seed-lit universe first became visible"

In his preface, Hinton notes that the Chinese sages' worldview is "remarkably contemporary" and similar to concepts such as "deep ecology", neither recognizes Western thought's traditional separation of self (or spirit) from nature Rather than being a static oneness, the Buddhist and Taoist cosmos is defined by flux — "possessed always of a restless hunger," writes Hinton, who celebrates that deeper implication in Hunger Mountain's name

While *Hunger Mountain* isn't always easy reading — the etymological sections can be slow going — Hinton illustrates oft-trivialized Eastern concepts with precision, beauty and power, tying them to our daily experience of the world For the philosophically inclined, it's hard to think of a better volume to bring on a daily mountain walk



CHRISTINA ROSALIE'S *A Field Guide to Now: Notes on Mindfulness and Life in the Present Tense* is illustrated in the literal sense Rosalie, also a mixed-media artist, alternates text with full-color vintage postcards that she has transformed using vivid paint and collage Also billed as a "field guide," her book combines self-help format (definitions, activities for the reader) with memoir

While Hinton's book never delves into the author's personal life, Jericho-based Rosalie's is dominated by a confessional element Long essay sections describe the author's struggle to appreciate the present moment as she faces life's vicissitudes giving birth to a second child, weathering an economic downturn.

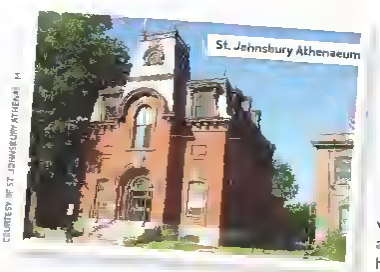
Accordingly, readers' responses to Rosalie's exhortations to "claim the day with gusto and bravery and longing" may depend on how well they relate to her personal story But even those who find the narrative a mite self-absorbed will appreciate prose like the author's evocative description of her young son, as she rubs his back and worries about his health "His scapula are like sharp clay wings, and I can count each of his ribs like the hull of a canoe that is drifting away from me on feverish eddies of sleep."

If these two books are any indication, winter is the time to take a long hike inside your head — while keeping your eyes open to the beauty of the frozen world ⑦

Hunger Mountain: A Field Guide to Mind and Landscape by David Hinton Shambhala Publications, 145 pages $14

A Field Guide to Now: Notes on Mindfulness and Life in the Present Tense by Christina Rosalie Globe Pequot Press 181 pages. $18.95

BOOK 'EM



COURTESY OF ST JOHNSBURY ATHENAEUM

Think librarians are mousy types? Think again This Saturday a group of mad-as-hell members of **RURAL LIBRARIANS UNITE** (RULU) will convene to demonstrate in support of the **ST JOHNSBURY ATHENAEUM** whose trustees laid off its entire library staff last month to cut costs According to a recent vitriolic release from RULU, the move would save only 8 percent of the budget.

The largest library in the Northeast Kingdom is also a state treasure In its elegant Second Empire building it provides visitors from across the region with not just books educational programming and internet access but also a world-class collection of paintings — including a jaw-dropping 10-by-15-foot canvas titled "Domes of the Yosemite" by Alfred Bierstadt — and sculptures (thank you Horace Fairbanks). Unfortunately the Athenaeum is suffering a financial crisis like many libraries in this age of advanced information technology and diminishing resources of that low-tech kind: money As board chair **BILL MARSHALL** wrote in a recent letter justifying radical changes, "What we cherish and appreciate is in jeopardy."

Still the members of RULU are outraged that the library staff was sacked (though are free to apply for new positions) Writes **PENNY PILLSBURY** director of the **BROWNELL LIBRARY** in Essex Junction "Having worked with **LISA VON KANN** the director of the St Johnsbury Athenaeum, for over 20 years I'm horrified that a consummate professional of her caliber would be treated with such brutal lack of respect. In my 48 years of library work, I can't think of a worse time to fire the librarians."

To be sure the board of the Athenaeum — which has vowed to balance the facility's budget by 2015 — has a difficult road ahead and the firing of its staff cannot have been an easy decision But on Saturday, RULU — a volunteer group formed "to promote and support libraries library staff and librarianship in rural settings" — will underscore its ire at the "heavy-handed approach" by gathering to "hug" the Athenaeum "We will be holding hands around the library in solidarity with Athenaeum library staff" promises the RULU. Stay tuned for updates on this page-turning story.

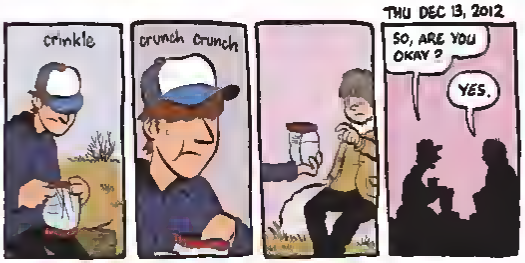
PAMELA POLSTON

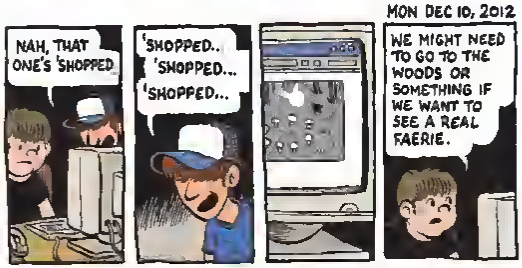
HUG THE ST. JOHNSBURY ATHENAEUM
Rural Librarians United will lead a demonstration in solidarity with library staff this Saturday January 12 at noon at the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum 1171 Main Street. ruralibrariansunite.org stjathenaeum.org

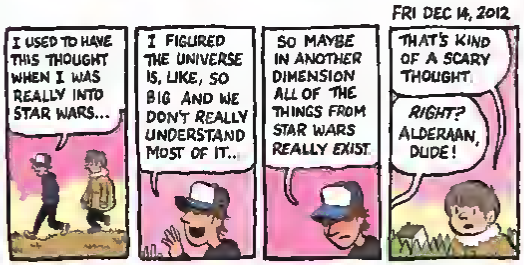


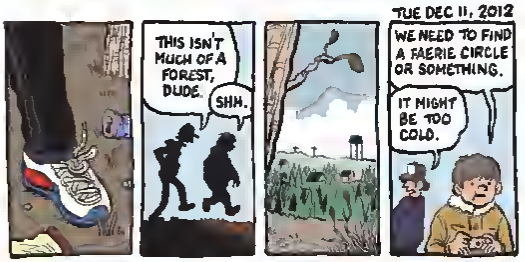














DAKOTA MCFADZEAN is a Canadian cartoonist currently completing his final semester at the Center for Cartoon Studies. He has drawn a comic strip every day since 2010 and you can read them all at dakotamcfadzean.com

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Dear Cecil,
Why are images from our space program always in grayscale instead of color? I know NASA needs to extract data from those images, and I also know the cameras aren't $9.99 specials from the corner drugstore. But couldn't NASA just stick a plain-old color digital camera on board and send it to Mars along with the rest of the equipment?

Buster Blocker,
Bettendorf Iowa



SLUGSIGNORINI

They've thought about it, actually. But the truth is, we're probably better off the way things are.

To find out about space cameras, we got in touch with Noam Izenberg, a planetary scientist working on the MESSENGER probe, which is now circling Mercury taking pictures. He told us there are basically two reasons space photography is mostly in black and white. The first, as you rightly suppose, is that grayscale images are often more useful for research.

In principle, most digital cameras, including cheap Walmart models in addition to the custom-built jobs on space probes, are monochrome, or more accurately panachrome. Each of the pixel-sized receptors in a digital camera sensor is basically a light bucket; unmodified, their combined output is simply a grayscale image generated from all light in the visible spectrum and sometimes beyond.

To create a color image, each pixel on a typical earthbound camera has a filter in front of it that passes red, green or blue light, and the camera's electronics add up the result to create the image we see, similar to a color TV. In effect, filtering dumbs down each panachrome pixel so that it registers only a fraction of the light it's capable of seeing. Granted, the human eye works in roughly the same way. The fact remains, in an earthbound camera, some information is lost.

Space cameras are configured differently. They're designed to measure not just all visible light but also the infrared and ultraviolet light past each end of the visible spectrum. Filtering is used primarily to make scientifically interesting details stand out. "Most common planetary camera designs have filter wheels that rotate different light filters in front of the sensor," Izenberg says. "These filters aren't selected to produce 'realistic' color that the human eye would see, but rather to collect light in wavelengths characteristic of different types of rocks and minerals," to help identify them.

True-color images — that is, photos showing color as a human viewer would perceive it — can be approximated by combining exposures shot through different visible-color filters in certain proportions, essentially mimicking what an earth camera does. However, besides not inherently being of major scientific value, true-color photos are a bitch to produce. All the variously filtered images must be separately recorded, stored and transmitted back to Earth, where they're assembled into the final product. An 11-filter color snapshot really puts the squeeze on storage space and takes significant transmission time.

Given limited opportunities, time and bandwidth, a better use of resources often is a false-color image — for example, an infrared photo of rocks revealing their mineral composition. At other times, when the goal is to study the shape of the surface, measuring craters and mountains and looking for telltale signs of tectonic shifts or ancient volcanoes, scientists want black-and-white images at maximum resolution so they can spot fine detail.

Terrific, you say. But don't scientists realize the PR value of a vivid color photo?

They realize it all right. But that brings up the second reason most NASA images aren't in color. The dirty little secret of space exploration is that a lot of the solar system, and for that matter the cosmos, is pretty drab. "The moon is 500 shades of gray and black with tiny spatterings of greenish and orangish glass," Izenberg says. "Mars is red-dun and butterscotch with white ice at the poles. Jupiter and glorious Saturn are white/yellowish/brown/reddish. Hubble's starscapes are white or faintly colored unless you can see in the infrared and ultraviolet."

As for Mercury, Izenberg's bailiwick, NASA has posted on its website detailed color photos showing vast swaths of the planet's surface. If the accompanying text didn't tell you they were true-color, you'd never know.

False-color images are often a lot more interesting. The colors aren't faked, exactly; rather, they're produced by amplifying modest variations in the visible spectrum and adding in infrared and ultraviolet. Some of the less successful examples look like a Hare Krishna tract, but done skillfully the result can be striking. The spectacular full-color nebula images from the Hubble Space Telescope were all produced by black-and-white sensors with color filters.

For what it's worth, some colleagues of Izenberg's a few years ago floated the idea of doing as you suggest — putting an off-the-shelf digital camera on a probe in addition to the more expensive models. The idea didn't get off the ground, as it were, partly out of concerns that the camera wouldn't survive the extreme temperatures of space. But chances are the raw results wouldn't have been all that impressive anyway. Experience suggests a good space photo needs a little... eh, don't call it show biz. Call it art. ⑦

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Of Work and Love

"I thought there'd be more snow," my customer said from the shotgun seat — not as a complaint, but cheerfully, conversationally.

Noreen Catalano had the look of a '60s-era folk singer, with a dark complexion, long, silky black hair parted in the middle, and large, expressive brown eyes. I was driving her up to Stowe for a Christmas visit with her brothers family. Back at the airport awaiting her bag, she had told me she lived in an apartment in Manhattan's East Village neighborhood — at Avenue B and Ninth, to be exact.

Noreen's address and physical appearance evoked teenage memories of taking the subway from my Brooklyn home into the East Village to a legendary, now-defunct concert hall called the Fillmore East, run by the equally legendary (and equally defunct) concert promoter Bill Graham. I have zero desire to move back to NYC, but I retain an abundant store of fond recollections from my salad days in the Big Apple.

"Well, there'll be more of the white stuff where your brother lives," I explained. "And I hear there's a big snowstorm brewing for later in the week."

"Ooh, that would be nice to see, but, unfortunately, this is a quick, 24-hour visit. Work beckons, as they say."

"Do ya work in the city?"

"I do," she said, and I thought I detected a sigh. "I work for a small investment house with about 70 employees."

"Seventy employees," I repeated with a chuckle. "A 'small' company? That would be, like one of the bigger businesses in Vermont. Anyway, do you enjoy the work, what you do?"

"It's funny you ask, because I've really been mulling over, you know, my life and where it's going. I'm good at my job, but I'm not exactly passionate about it. And just because I'm in investment banking doesn't make me rich, in case you were thinking that. Seriously, I can hardly balance my own checkbook! Plus, it costs a fortune to live in New York City."

"Well, you're still young," I said. "A career change is definitely not out of the question. Have you even turned 30?"

"Thank you very much for that," Noreen said. "I'm in my forties. I *have* been painting my whole life. I love it, and I've enjoyed some success. But I've never really given it a full shot, if you know what I mean."

We swung off the interstate at the Stowe exit and took Route 100 north. It seemed that more than half the license plates around us were from out of state, which I took as a good sign for the ski towns located 12 miles to the north and 20 miles to the south. And a good omen for local cabbies whose winter revenue stream is likewise boosted by a bountiful ski season.

"A life in the arts is an interesting subject, Noreen," I said, taking up where we had left off. "It seems to me that actually making a living in music, painting, dance, acting — any of the creative fields — is such a long shot. Tons of truly talented people never achieve a viable career. In my experience, the ones who do make it are the folks who need it like air. You know what I'm saying? Folks with no Plan B, who can't conceive of doing anything else. And, of course, even with that never-say-die attitude, it also takes talent and luck."

"I know *just* what you mean," Noreen said. "And I don't know if I'm ready to pull the trigger. To really go for it, to free up the time and attention it would take — well, it would mean, like, getting a job at Starbucks and moving into a crappy apartment with roommates." She stopped to chuckle. "I should say a *crappier* apartment. It's all just such a huge decision. I do really, *really* love painting, though."

"Could I ask if there's a Mr. Catalano? What does he think about this?"

I HAVE ZERO DESIRE TO MOVE BACK TO NYC, BUT I RETAIN AN ABUNDANT STORE OF FOND RECOLLECTIONS FROM MY SALAD DAYS IN THE BIG APPLE.

Noreen shook her head and laughed. "If you're referring to my dad, he just wants his little girl to be happy. If you're talking about a husband — which I know you are — that hasn't happened. I *was* in a serious relationship, but that ended a couple years ago."

"What happened, if I may be so bold?"

"I don't really know, to be perfectly honest. He was a totally great guy, but I broke it off. I just couldn't understand why he wanted to be with me."

"I guess we have some issues there, don't we?" I said, my jokey tone making clear I wasn't trying to get all shrinky with her. "Maybe it's time to send him an email. Has he hooked up with somebody else that you know of?"

"Last I heard, he was dating this Australian girl. Isn't that crazy?"

"You mean Australian living in New York? Or actually living down under?"

"No, you got it — the latter. She was living in Australia."

"That is crazy," I said. "Talk about a long-distance relationship. I don't think it could get any longer unless she was living on the International Space Station."

After a few turns off dirt roads showcasing some of the most elegant and, no doubt, pricey homes in Vermont, we reached Noreen's brother's residence — a graceful and understated, white-cedar-sided ranch house at the end of the lane, perched on a ridge at the edge of a large clearing.

"My brother is also an investment banker," she told me, "but he actually makes some real money at it."

As we pulled to a stop, I felt the need to 'fess up. "Noreen, at the times when a woman's age comes up in conversation, I generally take five years off what I really think. So, in truth, I really didn't put you at 30, but, honestly, you do look about 35."

Noreen laughed, and looked so sweet doing so. *If I was her ex*, I thought, *I'd drop the Australian sheila in a New York minute and get back with this woman.*

Smiling she said, "Well, thanks again for that, and I don't really mind that I can't pass for a 30-year old. For all my issues, I feel good about who I am. I really do." ⓩ

Hackie is a twice-monthly column that can also be read on sevendaysvt.com

To reach Jernigan Pontiac, email hackie@sevendaysvt.com.





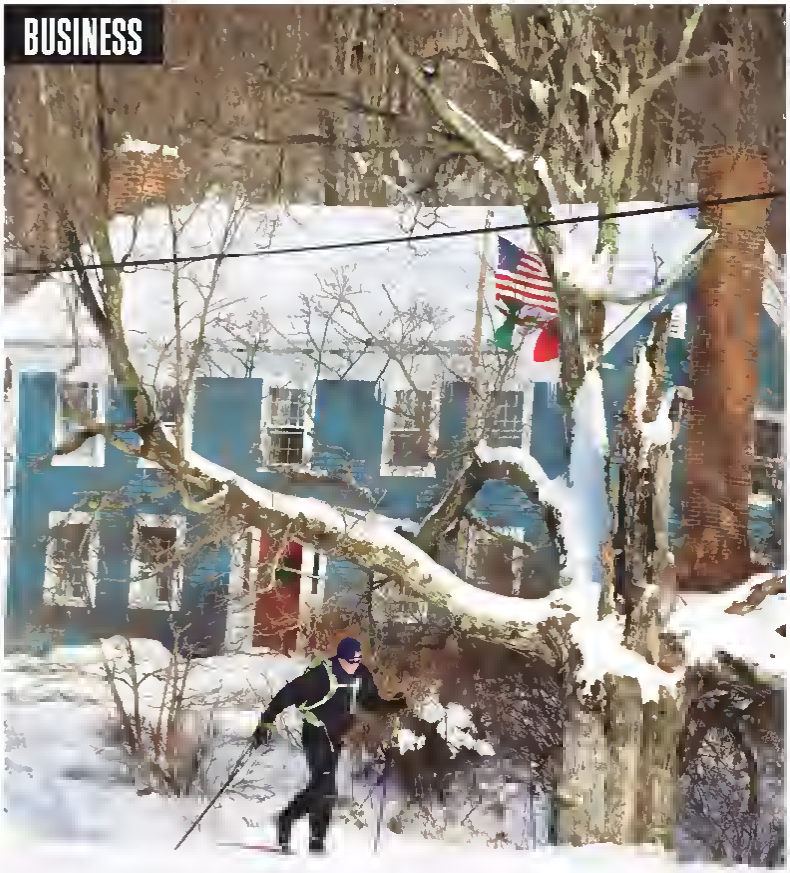


PHOTO: CHARLIE K.A.

Inn *and* Out

Why the king of Blueberry Hill is ready to call it quits

BY KATHRYN FLAGG

Ask enough fans to describe Blueberry Hill Inn, and the word that comes up time and again is "magical." Five miles down a remote Forest Service road in sleepy Goshen, with the round bulk of Hogback Mountain rising behind it, the bright-blue farmhouse is surrounded by 22,000 acres of the protected Moosalamoo National Recreation Area. It's isolated but idyllic — the kind of place that longtime guest Cindy Allen describes as feeling "a little bit out of time."

In the summertime, guests explore the adjoining gardens and blueberry bushes; in the winter, they glide past on skinny skis. There's a wood-fired sauna for unwinding at the end of the day and a spring-fed pond for those brave enough for an icy dip.

Presiding over this quintessential Vermont inn is Tony Clark — "the consummate innkeeper," says Rep. Willem Jewett, tiny Goshen's Democratic representative to the Vermont House. Clark's guests call him charming, a skilled raconteur, charismatic. "The real deal," proclaims Megan Smith, a former innkeeper herself and Vermont's commissioner of tourism and marketing.

"He knows how to host people, and he knows what people are looking for," she says — and that often looks easier than, in fact, it is. "Everybody is looking for a different amount of interaction," says Smith. "You're only successful if you can judge that, and Tony gets that."

Clark chalks it up to his puddle-jumping pedigree — English dry humor meets French reserve, with a healthy dash of American enthusiasm. "It comes so naturally for me," admits Clark. "You have to be intrigued, you have to be inquisitive — but not be in their face. It's that fine balance."

But what happens when Mr. Hospitality himself wants to check out? That's the question Clark now faces.

In June, after more than four decades as the proprietor, he listed Blueberry Hill Inn for sale at $1.2 million. Clark insists that he's just testing the waters, but he's put the inn on the market at a time that's notoriously bad for sellers. There's a glut of properties available, and, with financing hard to come by, buyers are few and far between.

At 68, Clark is tired. And after two failed marriages, he says he's learned the hard way that taking care of others first and your family second is a recipe for regret. Though Clark delights in his guests, his can be a lonely life.

"The inn-keeping business is like a conveyor belt of people coming through your life," he says. Occasionally, though, a friendship will stick.

"I love every minute of this operation," says Clark, who manages a staff of six employees who help run the inn. "But my energy level is obviously not as strong as it used to be."

Change of Newhart

Inn keeping has a romantic appeal. It's probably fair to assume more people are daydreaming about entering the profession than leaving it.

"We always called it the Bob Newhart effect," says Smith, referencing the 1980s sitcom in which the affable comedian played an innkeeper in rural Vermont. In short, she says, too many would-be owners only imagine decorating, baking and perhaps playing the handyman in an old, rambling house — all while living somewhere beautiful.

"It is all of those things, but it's just a whole lot more work than that," says Molly Francis, who for nine years



Tony Clark chats with a guest

has owned the Shoreham Inn with her husband, Dominic. Their inn has been on the market for two years.

There's really nothing romantic about it, says Smith, who owned an inn in Mendon for 14 years with her husband. It's a round-the-clock job, with few opportunities for rest or vacations. For smaller operations, inn keeping can encompass everything from cleaning the toilets to keeping the books. For larger inns, there's the added challenge of managing a staff.

None of this is new. What is changing, though, is a growing awareness among innkeepers that a stodgy old bed-and-breakfast may no longer appeal to travelers, especially when fewer people are taking vacations. That, in part, is what goaded the Professional Association of Innkeepers International to launch its Death to Doilies campaign last year.

"It's time to burn the doilies and rip off the wallpaper," says Smith.

Clark, for his part, rails against what he's nicknamed the "Laura Ashley" bed-and-breakfasts, poking fun at the line of frilly textiles and home furnishings.

The reason? Experts such as Smith say that travelers today — especially younger ones — aren't looking for tchotchkes and trinkets in their lodging. They want wireless internet access and plenty of outlets for their electrical devices. In old buildings, some of which don't even have three-prong outlets, that can be a challenge. "I had no TVs in my inn, and no telephones in my rooms," recalls Smith. It attracted some visitors and appalled others; a few checked out upon arrival.

Gone, too, are the days of taking reservations by telephone; at Killington's Snowed Inn, upward of 80 percent of bookings are made online. Trying to compete with online booking engines and sites such as airbnb.com, shrewd innkeepers are tapping into social-media sites, including Facebook and Twitter. That's a challenge for some older innkeepers — Clark, for one, outsources those duties to his staff — or those who don't have reliable, high-speed internet where they live.

Even when everything goes well, few innkeepers make a lifelong career of the work. "We were warned that ... seven years is about when you start to burn out," says Smith.

Francis says she and her husband knew what they were getting into when they purchased the Shoreham Inn — but, after nearly 10 years, she says, they're ready for a change.

"In my head it makes sense that it would be a good time to buy," says Francis. There are plenty of inns on the market, after all, and interest rates are low. She points out that if a buyer purchases an established business — she points to Blueberry Hill Inn and the Shoreham Inn as examples — "you'd be walking into a job."

It's not quite so simple as all that, says Wendy Beach, Clark's broker for Blueberry Hill Inn. Beach is no stranger to the hospitality industry; her husband is a fourth generation owner of the Basin Harbor Club in Ferrisburgh, and she lives year-round with her family at the lakeside resort. It's also the de facto headquarters for the Hearthside Group, a real estate agency that Beach runs along with partner Gary Gosselin, which focuses exclusively on marketing hospitality properties in Vermont and New Hampshire.

Beach says that never before in her career has she seen so many distressed properties in the hospitality industry. Occupancy rates are down. Fixed costs are on the rise. Prospective buyers may have trouble unloading other assets — typically a home in another part of the country — to free up money for a purchase. Add to that another major hurdle: According to Beach, Vermont lending institutions are incredibly wary about financing for the hospitality industry.

While Francis holds out hope for buyers with visions of Bob Newhart dancing in their heads, she's also realistic. "It's not like we've had a parade of people coming through to look at our place," she admits.

> THE INN-KEEPING BUSINESS IS LIKE A CONVEYOR BELT OF PEOPLE COMING THROUGH YOUR LIFE.
>
> TONY CLARK

Perfect Conditions

Clark knew next to nothing about inn keeping when he got into the business in 1971. But by some happy convergence of location, recreation and natural hospitality, Blueberry Hill Inn thrived.

Clark spent his childhood in Bordeaux, France — but as his crisp English accent suggests, he comes from British stock. His grandfather built a small empire exporting marzipan-stuffed prunes to upscale English grocery stores such as Harrods. Clark's parents fled France during World War II — he was born in 1944, in Wales — but returned when he was a small child. The Clarks sold the family business, and Clark's father exported the wines for which Bordeaux is famous. As a boy, Clark attended the local lycee and then was "whisked off to boarding school" on the Channel Islands off the coast of Normandy.

He came to the United States in 1964 on what was, to hear him describe it, a lark. His older brother was studying at Harvard, and Clark had a mind to pay him a visit. While applying for his visa, the U.S. embassy official offered Clark a choice. He could opt for an extended travel visa or apply for a green card. Clark took the latter, though he didn't intend to stay long. He was young and energetic, and imagined hitchhiking around the world.

Instead, Clark landed a job teaching French at a private school in Deerfield, Mass., where he met the woman who would become his first wife, Martha. was a young widow with a baby. "At age 22, 23, something like that," he says, "I thought that I would take care of this person." It was Martha who introduced Clark to Vermont, and she who, in 1967, purchased Blueberry Hill after a call to Clark when she reportedly told him, "I've found it. I found the place."

The inn was pretty run down at the time, and had been tied up in estate court. But Goshen was, Clark says, a "magnet" for young people, and he and Martha were caught up in the excitement of working the land. The two were married the following year. Clark taught at a private school in Burlington, but when the school folded a year or two later, he was scrambling for work — until he found a gig as a ski rep for a Norwegian company.

"I remember well going up to Trapp Family Lodge and visiting with Johannes von Trapp and selling him skis, and him saying, 'Why don't you open a place up at Blueberry Hill?'" Clark says. "He was kind of the avant-garde of developing the cross country ski business. I didn't know much about it, but thought, *Why not?*"

INN AND OUT » P.28

Inn and Out «P27

So in 1971, Clark and Martha put up a shingle. They opened the inn and a small touring center concurrently. They cleared a few trails — "hadn't got a clue whose land we were skiing on," Clark says, but they soon found out after a visit from "the National Forest boys.' The approach, he says, was to "do it and then plead complete ignorance." And as it happened, he worked out the first special-use permit for National Forest land in Vermont.

In the beginning, it was Martha, not Tony, who was synonymous with Blueberry Hill. In a 1990 article in the *Rutland Herald*, onetime Goshen resident Yvonne Daley recalls that Martha was the woman who could whip up breakfast, weed a half-acre garden and lay out a six-course dinner all in the course of a day. "Tony was the guy in the background," Daley writes. As Clark himself wrote in a 1990 cookbook, he was "the promoter — the idea person — in charge of marketing the inn and developing the cross-country ski center."

And his ideas paid off. It turned out that Clark had tapped into cross-country skiing at exactly the right moment. The 1970s back-to-the-land ethos, coupled with renewed interest in physical fitness and a growing rebellion against the expense of alpine skiing, primed the pump. "The sport just went gangbusters," Clark said, and the following decade was the heyday for skiing at Blueberry Hill.

"We'd go out and slog. We had our wooly knickers on and gaiters, one foot in front of the other. I didn't even know what the word 'groom' was in those days," recalls Clark. "Now the question is, 'How many Ks do you have groomed? Do you groom for skating?' It's completely changed."

Snow Way Out

That's just one of the reasons Clark sounds exhausted when he talks about the business of inn keeping these days. He contends that with the glut of bed-and-breakfasts in Vermont — an estimated 350, according to the fledgling Vermont Inn and Bed and Breakfast Association — it's no longer enough to offer a nice room and a hearty meal. There has to be some other draw — often location, in a college town or ski resort. Beach says properties in Stowe, Manchester, Woodstock and Middlebury consistently perform well.

In off-the-beaten-path Goshen, Clark found a different carrot: skiing. But he now suspects the days are numbered for small, recreational ski areas like Blueberry Hill.

"I hope he's just feeling a little blue about last winter," says Rep. Jewett, when confronted with Clark's glum forecast for smaller cross-country ski areas in Vermont. A booster for his district, Jewett borrows a term coined by Mike Hussey, the director of the Rikert Nordic Center in Ripton, to describe the region: "the Addison Alps."

It's hard not to draw comparisons between Rikert and Blueberry Hill and wonder if Clark doesn't have a point. Owned and operated by Middlebury College, Rikert boasts a new 5-kilometer course certified for ski-racing competitions that is guaranteed by new snowmaking equipment along the course. The college renovated the previously shabby ski center, where skiers can now outfit themselves in branded jerseys and caps.

The improvements seem to be paying off: Rikert will host the NCAA Nordic championships in March. And though the late-December snowstorm had something to do with it, Rikert is reporting its best holiday week ever. The rush on season passes was so great that, by New Year's Day, the ski center had run out of materials to print up additional passes.



CALEB KENNA

For Hussey, who took charge of the ski center two years ago, the improvements — especially snowmaking — were a long time in coming. "The Nordic industry is about 35 or 40 years behind the alpine industry in that sense," he says. By the early 1970s, he says, downhill ski areas had realized they couldn't rely on Mother Nature. If they were going to sell season tickets, they had to deliver snow.

If Nordic skiing was late to the snowmaking game, it's because the industry had a "cultural divide to get over," says Hussey, citing the idea that the typical Nordic skier is someone who wants to get out in the quiet woods, and relies on natural snow to do so. Those skiers still exist, and in great numbers, but Hussey points to skiers he classifies as fitness skiers. "They want to ski, and they're willing to ski on a kilometer as long as that's available."

What does that mean for low-tech ski areas such as Blueberry Hill?

Clark admits he's happy to be just a few miles down the road from Rikert. After a year in which many guests postponed or cancelled reservations because of the lack of snow, it's helpful to be able to offer guests complimentary passes to the nearby ski area, and he advertises its snowmaking equipment on his own website. This March, Blueberry Hill will host the entire University of Utah Nordic team for the week of the NCAA championships — a reservation made with the understanding that Clark would provide wireless internet throughout the inn, which he's now installing.

But for Clark, that doesn't translate to optimism for the future. Like Hussey, he draws comparisons to the development of the downhill skiing industry. "In the '40s and '50s, every bump in Vermont had a rope tow," Clark says. Then came chair lifts, gondolas and snowmaking — and the ski areas that couldn't keep up folded.

"The same thing is happening in cross-country skiing," Clark says. "The subtle difference is, you can't make snow for more than five Ks, unless you have a sugar daddy like Middlebury College. And do you, as a tourist, actually want to go around and around and around — I call it gerbil-cage skiing — on a one-kilometer loop? Not me."

Clark predicts that the number of touring centers in the state will shrink to a half dozen or so in the next five or 10 years. The areas that invest in snowmaking will survive — and those that can't, won't. (See accompanying story, page 30.)

Here Today

Clark has navigated plenty of obstacles in the hospitality business. When he and Martha divorced in 1982, Clark was thrust overnight into the roll of head innkeeper, with little idea of how to run a household, let alone an inn. "I didn't know how to boil water," he told the *Rutland Herald* in 1990.

These days, he occasionally cooks for the inn's guests himself — as many as 24 on a busy night. And he's not whipping up bachelor-pad food; it might be elegant duck confit or puff pastry with escargot.

Facing more recent challenges — namely, the volatility of the ski industry and an economic recession in which many travelers balk at rates as high as $190 per person — Clark is shifting back into the role of "idea person," at least for now. He's already refocusing his efforts on

summer and fall business. The same trails that lure cross-country skiers in winter are also popular with hikers and walkers, who represent a larger potential market.

Summer? Gone are the days of $100,000 weddings, but the four or five more modest affairs that Blueberry Hill Inn hosts during the warmer months bring in reliable revenue.

The business is also substantially easier to run in every season other than winter. Clark doesn't groom ski trails much anymore, but, he recalls, "the Sno-Cat stuck at 2 o'clock in the morning, and shoveling it out — I've been there."

Clark isn't sure what life after Blueberry Hill would look like. "I don't *really* want to be rocking on the porch telling stories," he says. Perhaps he'd move to nearby Middlebury. Spend a few weeks or months a year in France. He daydreams about writing a book — Vermont's answer to Peter Mayle's *A Year in Provence* — chronicling the life of an innkeeper in a rural mountain town. If the inn doesn't sell, he imagines he'll be an absentee owner and find a couple to run the place.

Clark dismisses the notion that he's essential to the operation of Blueberry Hill. He sees himself as a steward of the land — he championed the creation of the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area in 2006 — and expresses hopes that whoever comes next will take care of the place.

"Honestly, I don't think he really, really wants to sell," confides Beach, Clark's broker. "If he had his druthers, I think he'd stay right up there."

And it's true: Clark speaks lovingly about Blueberry Hill. Ask him about his favorite time of the year at the inn, and he waxes about kicking leaves in the woods in late fall ("I'm a great kicker of leaves"), the last ski of the season, the wildflowers in early spring.

But it's lonely at the top, says Beach, and Clark isn't getting any younger. None of his children — including a stepson and three biological children — wants in. The youngest from his second marriage, to Shari Brown, is still in high school. Clark jokes that his son from his first marriage, Chris, moved west to escape the hospitality business.

So begins the matchmaking — Beach's role as Clark's real-estate agent. Even in cases where one personality is intimately tied to a property, she says, "It's amazing. It keeps right on. Because whoever buys it has already formed some kind of fundamental attachment to it. It's the match between the property and the people. The person who comes and buys Blueberry Hill is going to care about it just as much as Tony Clark does."

That's good news for the devoted clientele that has been visiting Blueberry Hill — in some cases, for decades. Another plus for Clark's succession strategy: Guests seem to love the place first; the innkeeper, second. Maryland native Cindy Allen first visited the inn 19 years ago with a childhood friend; the two women were celebrating their 40th birthdays. Nearly every year since, they've made the trek back to Goshen.

"There were a couple of years where we did something else, but we were always really sorry," she confesses. "Really, we just eat and read and ski and eat some more," says Allen. "Because it's one of the rare times that either of us gets away from our family and our regular life, there's a really wonderful sense of relaxation and freedom there."

REALTOR WENOY BEACH SAYS THAT NEVER BEFORE IN HER CAREER HAS SHE SEEN SO MANY DISTRESSED PROPERTIES IN THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY.

As for Clark, she describes him as the kind of innkeeper who makes his guests feel more like visitors than paying customers but still finds time to sweat the details, such as the way butter is served at dinner.

On a recent, bitterly cold January day, Clark is just as accommodating as ever. There's hot coffee in the pot and soup simmering in the cozy farmhouse kitchen that dates back to 1813. A guest up from D.C. is passing through the sunny sitting room with her young daughter, they've just come in from a mid-morning ski, their last before they hit the road. The thermometer reads 2 degrees Fahrenheit. Clark clicks effortlessly into host mode, teasing the girl with grandfatherly humor. "Did you fall?" he asks with a twinkle in his eye.

Within an hour, the conveyor belt will rumble into motion again, and the two guests will be gone. ⑦







Survival of the Snowiest

Vermont cross-country ski areas are fighting climate change — with snow guns

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY



PHOTOS BY [illegible]

Judy Geer and Dick Dreissigacker at Craftsbury Outdoor Center

It's been a good year — so far — for Vermont's cross-country ski areas, thanks to the biggest snowfall since March 2011. But a growing number of Nordic centers are betting such snows will soon be the exception, not the rule, in Vermont.

And they're betting big. In anticipation of climate change, a half dozen cross-country ski centers, from Craftsbury to Grafton, have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in snowmaking machinery. That's a huge outlay for operations that generally struggle to remain solvent even in snowy winters. The choice, as they see it: Spend today or die tomorrow.

Snowmaking has become "a necessity" for Nordic centers in Vermont, especially those at lower elevations, says Jim Fredericks, director of the Catamount Trail Association. "If you don't do it, you're dead in the water."

Rewards may await those operations that do offer a manufactured surrogate for an increasingly scarce natural commodity (recent snowfall notwithstanding). Snowmaking could eventually enable some cross-country ski areas to enjoy economic benefits similar to those reaped by Vermont downhill resorts following their introduction of snow guns 40 years ago.

"It's going to pay for itself," Mike Hussey predicts in regard to the nearly $1 million snowmaking system now being installed at Middlebury College's cross-country ski area in Ripton. The director of Midd's Rikert Nordic Center predicts, it will double our skier visits, easily."

Sleepy Hollow Inn, Ski and Bike Center has already diversified — as its name suggests. And it just added snowmaking equipment. The $60,000 array can't provide anything close to the coverage Hussey plans to lay down at Rikert. But the capacity to produce only 600 meters of artificial snow could still make a big difference to the Huntington facility, says events coordinator Molly Peters. "We lost at least $60,000 in visits last year due to the poor snow," she reckons, noting that Sleepy Hollow clocked only a dozen days of good skiing in the 2011-12 season.

The Craftsbury Outdoor Center started making snow 14 months ago and

has already registered substantial gains as a result. Skiers were able to glide and skate around the center's 15-kilometer machine-made loop starting Thanksgiving weekend — well before all but a couple of Vermont cross-country centers were able to open.

"Craftsbury is doing a phenomenal job of snowmaking — the best in the state so far," comments Fredericks, whose 30-year-old Nordic trail association includes 2000 dues-paying members. "They held two races there this season with no natural snow, and every room there was filled. That's 500 people who wouldn't have come to Craftsbury otherwise."

Those guests provide spin-off benefits to other businesses in that corner of the Northeast Kingdom, adds Judy Geer, co-owner of the Craftsbury center.

She and her husband, Concept 2 indoor rowing machine manufacturer Dick Dreissigacker, have put Craftsbury into a league led by the Mountain Top Inn & Resort in Chittenden and Grafton Ponds Outdoor Center, which pioneered cross-country snowmaking 20 years ago.

"We realized in the early '90s that it would make Grafton unique," says Wendell Rogers, who works at the cross-country ski center owned by the Windham Foundation. Sure enough, skiers from near and far schuss to Grafton when the ground is bare almost everywhere else.

"People will drive long distances to ski here," Rogers notes — even though they'll be confined to a single kilometer of Grafton's 100-kilometer trail network. That little loop has proved a big money maker. Last winter, which was pretty much a bust at Vermont ski areas dependent on the real thing, "was actually one of our better seasons," Rogers reports.

Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe began making snow on a thin slice of meadow five years ago. Proprietor Johannes von Trapp says he was persuaded to take the initiative after his son, Sam, told him about snowmaking innovations at cross country centers in Europe. It wasn't a self-evident decision for the elder von Trapp, who qualifies as a climate-change skeptic.

"Bill McKibben has whipped up a lot of hysteria," he says about the Vermont-based prophet of global warming. The shortfall of snowfall in recent winters should be seen as the product of a weather pattern similar to the cold-season droughts that left Vermont bare in the late '70s, von Trapp suggests. "I can remember some really poor winters: 40, 45 and 50 years ago," he says.

Jim McCullough, whose family has lived in Williston for generations, also recalls a winter so barren in 1979 that his Catamount Family Center managed to support skiing for a grand total of three days. But McCullough doesn't doubt that climate change is occurring — and appears to be accelerating.

He laments that consistently warmer temperatures and more powerful solar radiation forced him a few years ago to abandon an outdoor ice-skating rink that the center had built, at considerable cost, a decade earlier. Catamount was open to skiers 12 days last season — not nearly enough to cover expenses, McCullough notes. He says he knows that snowmaking could bring salvation for a center situated in Vermont's most populous county, but the capital expenditure is beyond his means. "Middlebury College can afford to do it at Rikert's. The Windham Foundation can afford to do it at Grafton. I can't afford to do it here," he says.

Rikert director Hussey contends owners of low-elevation centers such as Catamount "can't afford *not* to do it." The market, as well as the climate, will push holdouts into making the financial leap, he predicts. "Cross country is exactly where downhill was 40 years ago," says Hussey, who ran a snowmaking business prior to coming to Rikert. "People then were saying, 'I'll never get skiers to ski on man-made snow.' Well, those kinds of skiers can still go to Mad River Glen, I suppose, but most everyone else will tell you they actually prefer skiing on the man-made stuff."

Leigh Mallory, who's been a Nordic devotee for many of his 62 years, has come to appreciate not only the availability of manufactured snow but also its texture. "It's generally faster," Mallory says of Craftsbury's machine-produced loop. "I love it."

He must, given that Mallory made the 120-mile round-trip drive from his home in Colchester six times between Thanksgiving and Christmas. As a former coach of Colchester High School's Nordic ski team, Mallory also appreciates the opportunities Craftsbury offers to young Vermont cross country ski team members who can arrange transport to the outdoor center.

"Busloads" of student skiers do come to Craftsbury whenever it's the only operating Nordic center in northern Vermont, co-owner Geer notes. An added reason for its popularity is that she and Dreissigacker don't charge school ski teams to use the 15 kilometer loop.

"Our mission calls for us to promote participation in cross-country skiing," Geer explains. The couple operates Craftsbury as a nonprofit enterprise.

But apart from ski geeks and athletes, who would drive an hour or more to spin round and round a white loop encircled by brown?

"It's not much fun," Grafton's Rogers admits. Hussey adds that skiing in circles in a meadow "isn't going to attract the people who want to be out in nature and maybe see some wildlife."

It's no different than a runner who uses a track, Mallory points out. "You also get to meet people" on the Craftsbury loop, which may contain 50 or more skiers at one time, he says. "You ski with someone once around and then you might ski with someone else another time around."

For Hannah Miller, another Craftsbury regular, skiing on artificial snow "definitely beats roller-skiing on a road." Miller, 18, credits Craftsbury with helping her become the state's high school Nordic champion two years ago. A homeschooler, she has made the trip from her home in Elmore many times — even more frequently now that snow can be found there whenever the temps dip into the 20s.

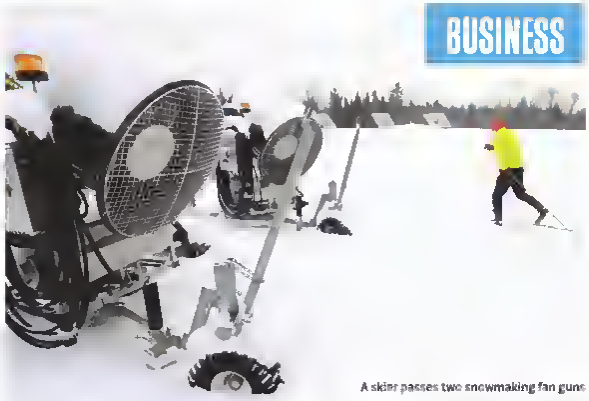
Craftsbury's technique may one day be seen as the most primitive method of cross-country snowmaking. The center's stationary guns spew out enough snow to form a mound several stories high. Mini-bulldozers spread the pile into a loop, which is then packed and groomed.

Rikert's pricier system — funded largely by an alum of Middlebury College, the center's owner — is more sophisticated, Hussey says. Electric-powered guns strung along a feeder pipe loft snow into place all along the five-K course.

Snowmaking does use a lot of water as well as energy. And such large-scale consumption of resources may seem paradoxical for a sport that colors itself deep green.

Most centers that have adopted the technology rationalize it on the grounds that the water drawdowns have received requisite state approval and that they've all instituted various energy-saving measures.

Craftsbury, however, has gone further, it walks the eco-talk. Waste heat from the center's biodiesel fueled generator is being used to warm the center's biggest building, Geer notes. It's part of a plan to heat the entire facility without reliance on fossil fuels.



A skier passes two snowmaking fan guns.

CROSS-COUNTRY IS EXACTLY WHERE DOWNHILL WAS 40 YEARS AGO. PEOPLE THEN WERE SAYING, "I'LL NEVER GET SKIERS TO SKI ON MAN-MADE SNOW."

MIKE HUSSEY



Close Call

How to keep a winter hike from turning into a nightmare

BY MEGAN JAMES

It seemed like a good idea at the time. On a sunny, mild, mid-February day, the earth sealed up in a thick crust of old snow, my husband and I set out for a hike up Camel's Hump.

We're both generally late risers and slow decision makers — we prefer to think of ourselves as spontaneous free spirits rather than poor planners — so it was well after noon when we began our winter hike.

We don't have snowshoes or cross-country skis, so we laced up our L.L.Bean boots and stuffed a backpack with gobs of extra layers. As a treat for a friend who doesn't hike, we offered to bring along his dog, a fluffy little pooch whose boundless energy makes up for her short legs. For sustenance, we carried a small water bottle, a box of Wheat Thins and a hunk of cheese, plus a baggie of meaty treats for the pup.

We usually take the popular Burrows Trail up Camel's Hump. But this time, when we arrived in Huntington, my husband suggested we try out the longer, more winding Forest City Trail. *Why not?* I thought, and the dog seemed game, too. So off we went.

The first few hours, we experienced a winter wonderland. The sun peeked through the trees and lit up the snow. The pup was in doggie heaven, bounding and leaping several feet ahead of us.

But as we climbed higher, the clouds rolled in. We were losing light, and I was getting cold. Why hadn't we reached the top yet? The trail, which had been neatly cut into the snow for the first part of the hike, had suddenly branched out into interlocking snowshoe tracks. We lost track of the blazes on the trees.

We began to panic when we noticed that the usually happy-go-lucky pooch was anxiously pawing at the snow, burrowing herself into the drifts as if seeking shelter. Out of nowhere, another hiker appeared like a mirage in the trees. We asked him which way to the top, he said he didn't know and then disappeared. It began snowing.

I suddenly knew, without a shred of doubt, that we were going to die up there. Worse, I realized that our friend's sweet dog would, too.

We pulled ourselves together and, after some frantic searching, fumbled our way back to the trail that would lead us down the mountain. After an unsuccessful attempt at carrying the dog in the pack, her little head bobbing around and sticking out at the top, my husband zipped her into his coat, carrying her snug against his warm chest. We ran that way, shouting to each other for regular updates on the pooch's condition, the whole way down.

After speaking last week with Pete Antos-Ketcham, director of operations for the Green Mountain Club, I discovered we had pretty much been doomed from the start. The three of us were lucky to make it out unharmed. We broke almost every rule he wisely suggests for safely enjoying winter trekking.

No. 1: Don't travel alone. The GMC recommends trekking with at least four people in winter so you can keep an eye out for each other and spot any signs of

hypothermia. "I tell folks to watch out for the "umbles,'" Antos-Ketcham advises. "Pay attention for mumbling, fumbling and stumbling."

No. 2: Layer your clothes. (My husband and I did OK with this one.) "You want to have the ability to get in and out of layers easily so you can keep yourself comfortably cool and not perspire too much," says Antos-Ketcham.

No. 3: Stay hydrated. "When people get cold, they don't think to take a big swig of water," he says, and notes that dehydrated people are more likely to get hypothermia. Antos-Ketcham recommends filling water bottles with warm water and storing them upside down in your pack — water freezes from the top down.

No. 4: Know where you're going. It's much easier to get lost in the winter, especially on the Long Trail, where blazes are white. "It was designed and maintained as a summer trail," Antos-Ketcham explains.

No. 5: Wear snowshoes or skis. Summer hiking boots won't keep your feet dry and warm — unless, like my industrious husband, you line them with trash bags. They also leave "post holes" in the trail, making it difficult for people behind you to navigate.

No. 6: If it's really cold, it's better to hike at lower elevations with tree cover. "Every 1000 feet you go up, you can anticipate a 3-to-5-degree decrease in temperature," Antos-Ketcham says.

I TELL FOLKS TO WATCH OUT FOR THE "'UMBLES." PAY ATTENTION FOR MUMBLING, FUMBLING AND STUMBLING.

PETE ANTOS-KETCHAM
GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

A native Vermonter, Antos-Ketcham learned early not to mess around outdoors in cold weather. When he was in fifth grade in the late '80s, his Boy Scout troop went camping in December to "test ourselves," he recalls. Before they settled in for the night in their lean-tos, the troop leaders told the boys to put on every stitch of clothing they'd brought to stay warm.

In the middle of the night, the boys woke up completely drenched. They had sweated through all their layers and were freezing. Shivering, they built another fire and sat around it miserably until the sun came up and they could go home.

"I still wonder to this day if any of the other scouts on that trip went on another winter trip ever again," Antos-Ketcham wrote in an article for GMC. "Luckily for me, I learned a thing or two about winter camping before I went out and 'tested myself' again."

These days, Antos-Ketcham is winter's biggest fan. Despite the extra challenges — indeed, because of them — he says he loves winter trekking. For one thing, visibility is better. "The air is colder and clearer; the leaves are off the trees, you get so many views," he says. And trails are less crowded in winter. "For those people who appreciate the opportunity for solitude, you can't beat it."

Still, Antos-Ketcham takes winter seriously. When he's teaching GMC's winter-trekking courses, he says, "I don't like to offer information to scare people, but it demands a higher level of respect. And that's the final bottom line. The margin of error is much lower than in the summertime."

In 2008, when Michael Sheridan was a sophomore at Champlain College, he and some friends hiked up Mt. Mansfield with their snowboards. Their plan was to drop in from the chin and ride down Stowe. But when they got to the summit, blinded by a complete whiteout, they dropped down the wrong side of the mountain. Hours later, they reached the bottom, but nothing looked familiar. They hiked around for an hour or so, searching for civilization, crossed a stream where some of them got wet, and finally stumbled on an unplowed access road and some vacant summer cabins.

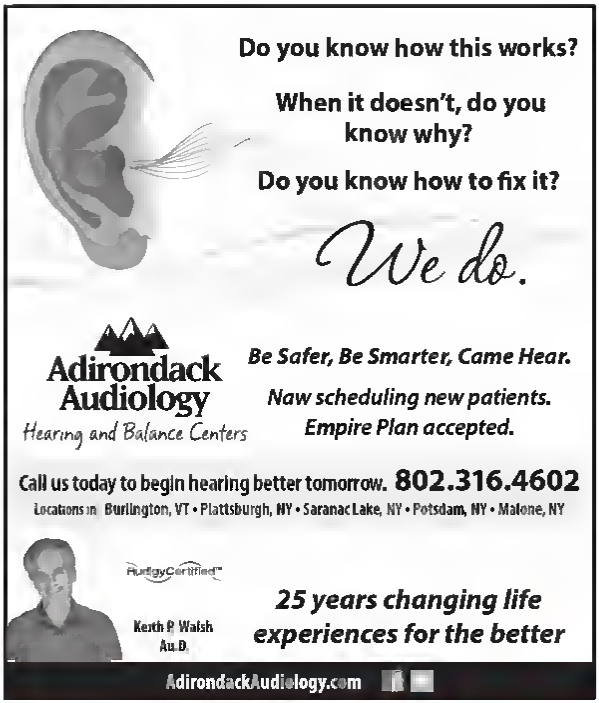
"After no luck in finding a phone or a person on the creepy, deserted road, we managed to flag a car down a few miles out and learned that we were almost a two-hour drive back to Stowe, which is when mild panic set in," Sheridan writes in an email. "It felt like the 'Twilight Zone.' We had no cellphone service, were soaking wet, and it was getting late into the afternoon in the middle of nowhere, while this old couple in a Prius drove off."

Sheridan says "an act of God" eventually brought a man in an SUV, a Champlain College alum, who piled them into his car and drove them to Smugglers' Notch.

After all that, the haggard riders took the last lift up at Smuggs, hiked over to Spruce Peak, which had been closed for a week, and rode down a few feet of untouched powder to the parking lot where they'd left their car.

"All in all, it ended up being worth it for that one end run," Sheridan writes. "I don't remember what the man's name was who gave us a ride, but I'm pretty sure he saved our lives." ⑦

The Green Mountain Club offers regular outings and workshops throughout the winter. Antos-Ketcham's next Cold Weather Trekking course is Wednesday, January 23, 8:30 to 8:30 p.m. at GMC headquarters in Waterbury. The GMC's 17th Annual Snowshoe Festival and Winter Party is February 2, starting at 8:30 a.m. in Waterbury. greenmountainclub.org





Red, White and Melted All Over

Taste Test: The Blue Stone Pizza Shop and Tavern, Waterbury

BY CORIN HIRSCH



Blue Stone Pizza Shop and Tavern co-owner Chris Fish

JEFF WOLF PHOTOGRAPHY

The Blue Stone Pizza Shop and Tavern, 13 Stowe Street, Waterbury, 888-8165, bluestonepizza.com (website still in progress)

At least 44 toppings are on offer at the Blue Stone Pizza Shop and Tavern, Waterbury's newest eatery. The first time I skimmed through them, my eyes sort of glazed over. The waitress kept checking back as I deliberated — over red sauce or pesto, herbs and mushrooms and olives, and unlikely morsels such as tofu, walnuts, pineapple (which some pizza eaters consider an abomination) and duck sausage (which sounded irresistible).

By the laws of permutation, 44 possible toppings translate to millions of different combinations. If you're vegetarian and adventurous, you might combine tofu with artichoke hearts and chevre with jalapeños or broccoli.

If you love flesh and protein, there are serious choices: bourbon-barbecue pork, smoked chicken, anchovies, meatballs, bacon, smoked ham and Cajun shrimp.

As I'm usually happiest with a well-crafted margherita pizza, I cut through the noise and ordered a small pie with pomodoro sauce, mozzarella and basil and hoped for the best.

Based on the Blue Stone's pedigree, the pie had a high probability of success. Chef Vincent Petrarca was until recently head chef at Positive Pie II in Montpelier, and his partner, Chris Fish, is a New England Culinary Institute grad who has worked as both an ice sculptor and a sous chef himself. The duo launched the Blue Stone late last year.

Petrarca and Fish set up shop at 13 Stowe Street, where for the previous 18 years chef Jan Chotalal had served up enchiladas, shrimp saag and jerk chicken at her fusion restaurant Marsala Salsa. Last summer, Chotalal experienced a double whammy: She learned she had breast cancer, and she lost her lease. (She's now serving her fare at nearby Cider House Barbecue and Pub.)

Despite the dodgy karma, Fish and Petrarca's renovation of the venue is elegant and smart. They broke through a wall of the erstwhile cozy room and created a cavernous, airy space with brick-red walls, a long bar along one side, and at least 50 seats at both high and low tables. In one corner sits the eponymous blue stone, a dark, polished wall stone some six feet wide, which came from an 18th-century farmhouse in Pittsford. Resembling petrified water, the rectangular stone has a hole in the center and serves as a communal table. Behind it, two arched doorways lead to another room with more seating and a take-out counter for slices and pies to go.

Despite the two huge flat-screen televisions flanking the bar, on a quiet night the room is placid and welcoming, the service attentive. Yet when we returned on a busier night and sat at the bar, we had to flag down a bartender for almost everything, from menus and water to refills and dessert. The Blue Stone can be a clamorous joint with an apres-ski feel, puffy jackets thrown over the backs of chairs and a mostly young crowd standing around with pints waiting for tables.

Perhaps wisely, Petrarca and Fish didn't try to create another destination for beer geeks; with at least two nationally known beer bars nearby, they took the middle road. Twelve taps behind the bar decant mostly craft brews (think Rogue and Narragansett Brewing Company), and another eight beers are available by the bottle. The wine list is utilitarian, too, with a few big brands by the glass and an eclectic choice or two mixed in — though, during our visits, no light red was available. Those in search of something stiffer can choose from a compact menu of signature drinks, such as the Old Fashioned Bailout — a blend of Old Grand-Dad bourbon, Cointreau, bitters, a champagne float and a lemon twist that is slap-you-in-the-face boozy.

The Blue Stone's motto is "Serious Pizza — Humble Food — No Bull," and the menu lives up to it. The apps list is

RED, WHITE AND MELTED » P 36

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SIDEdishes

BY CORIN HIRSCH & ALICE LEVITT

Rising at Noonie

POPULAR DELI EXPANDS

NOONIE DELI is returning to Chittenden County after a two-decade absence. Owners **BRYAN** and **JENNY PHELPS** plan to open a sister to their Middlebury venue in Essex Junction as soon as mid-March.

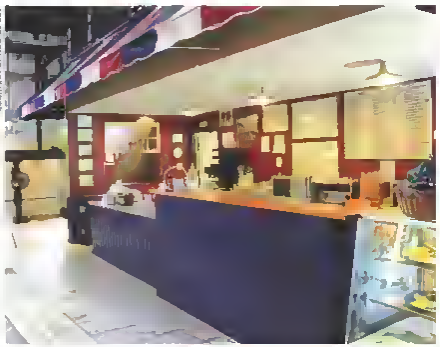
Noonie's history goes back to 1986, when, says **MANDY HOTCHKISS**, she and **JENNIFER SILPE** started it as a cart on Church Street. **PHOEBE BRIGHT** joined the sandwich business the next year — she's now Hotchkiss' chef-partner at **BLUE PADDLE BISTRO** in South Hero. They soon added a Toyota truck parked at the University of Vermont and opened nine fixed locations across the state, most of which closed in the 1990s.

Bryan and Jenny Phelps purchased the last remaining Noonie store, in Middlebury, from **KAREN PHELPS** (no relation) in March 2010. "When we purchased the deli three years ago, our intention was to grow the business," Bryan Phelps says. "The most logical direction to go to was where it originated — with a high concentration of population there, as well."

The Phelpses have chosen 1 Market Place, just off Susie Wilson Road in Essex Junction, as their new spot. Workers are currently renovating the space that until recently held the Party Store. The location makes practical sense, as the deli already gets its freshly baked bread daily from the **BAKER'S DOZEN**, across the street from the new store.

Phelps says his "good value — high quality" food won't differ from Noonie fare in Middlebury. Customers can still expect specialty sandwiches such as best-selling Purple's Pleasure, a combination of turkey, bacon, avocado, jalapeños and cheddar melted with garlic-basil mayo, as well as daily soup and comfort-food specials, such as wraps and mac and cheese. "We can't wait to become a part of the Essex community and are particularly grateful that we will be able to hit the ground running," Phelps says.

— A L



COURTESY OF NOONIE DELI

Entrées and Exits

THE BLACK DOOR AND ESSEX BAKERY SAY ADIEU, A NEW OWNER JOINS PISTOU

Ringing in 2013 was bittersweet for the **BLACK DOOR**'s owner, **IGNACIO RUIZ**, and manager, **RHONNA GABLE**. The pair knew that the new year would mean the end of the Montpelier restaurant they had opened in the spring of 2011.

SIDE DISHES » P37

Perched for Success

HINESBURGH PUBLIC HOUSE OPENS TO CROWDS

In the foyer of **HINESBURGH PUBLIC HOUSE** is a black potbellied stove to warm diners waiting for tables — and plenty of people needed it during the eatery's first full weekend open.

"We've been busy," says owner **WILL PATTEN**, sounding almost surprised. Apparently, Hinesburg was hungry for a new restaurant.

The soft opening of the 120-seat Hinesburgh Public House began last week, but managing partner **THOM DODGE** says the kitchen turned out 600 meals over the weekend; management is already hiring more staff.

The restaurant is funded in part by community shares of $500 each, which shareholders can spend as gift cards during its first year. (Shares are still for sale on the Hinesburgh Public House Facebook page.)

That support fueled the elegant renovation, which transformed the former Saputo cheese plant into a sage-green restaurant with a corrugated-steel façade, a warm wood interior, floor-to-ceiling windows, a private banquet room, a cozy bar and an outdoor deck overlooking Hinesburg village.



CORIN HIRSCH

The menu, executed by chef **SHAWN BEEDE** — former executive chef at Williston's **MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN** — is full of locally sourced comfort foods. They include cornmeal-encrusted perch fingers with marinated cabbage and housemade tartar sauce, a "daily braise" of beef from neighboring **GRASS ROOTS FARM**, beet carpaccio topped with local goat cheese, and mac and cheese with local cheddar, bacon and (nonlocal) pickled jalapeños.

The full bar serves up a wealth of local libations, including brews from Shelburne's **FIDDLEHEAD BREWING** and Middlebury's **DROP-IN BREWING COMPANY**, Unified Press Cider from Essex Junction's **CITIZEN CIDER**, and wines from **LINCOLN PEAK VINEYARD** and **SHELBURNE VINEYARD**.

Based on initial feedback, Dodge says management will scale back the menu to "20 or so core items, and then we'll do specials every day. That way we can use local ingredients more effectively." An on-site market will sell wares from local farmers and producers, too.

Hinesburgh Public House (10516 Route 116, Suite 6A, Hinesburg, 482-5500) is open seven days a week for dinner, as well as for lunch on Saturday and Sunday.

— C H

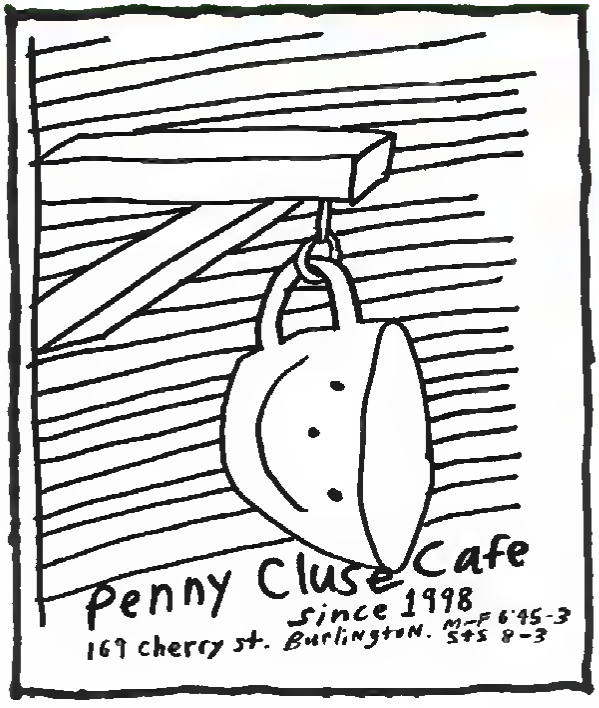
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Red, White and Melted « P34

short — wings, a few salads, a Barn Board ($7.50) with hummus, tapenade and veggies. Puzzlingly for a pizza restaurant, that list also contains two flatbreads and one bruschetta, perhaps the motto should include "big carbs." Even so, the prosciutto mozzarella bruschetta ($8.50) was tasty — charred slices of French bread were layered with baby arugula and topped with plump, mozzarella-filled rolls of prosciutto. The three slices were diagonally drizzled with sticky-sweet balsamic reduction, a touch that appeared on several dishes.

Kickin' Wings ($8.50) with chipotle butter had a subtle bite. The real first-course standout for me, though, was the Pitchfork Salad ($8.50 full, $4.50 half): baby greens sprinkled with feta crumbles, sunflower seeds and cubes of earthy, roasted tofu, all tossed in a lemony tahini dressing. It was a leafy life raft in a doughy sea of pizzas, wraps and flatbreads.

My no-frills pizza arrived on a thin crust with a liberal shower of basil chiffonade, splotches of white cut the surface where fresh mozzarella was layered over the shredded stuff. Though the crust could have been crisper and the sauce more ample, the pomodoro had a cheeky punch and lots of oregano.

Two other pizzas were less impressive. The first, called the Blue Stone, was culled from the Signature Pizza menu — $11 for a personal size (10 inches), $16 for small (14 inches), and $21 for a large (16 inches). Despite the base of white garlic sauce and a busy top coat of chèvre, roasted tomatoes, red onions, basil and shredded smoked chicken — as well as that ubiquitous balsamic reduction — the pie was not quite flavorful enough, sort of like when you mix bright paint colors and end up with brown.

Our custom-designed pizza of Blythedale Farm Jersey Blue Cheese, Kalamata olives and duck sausage was a letdown, and not because of our unorthodox combo, rather, because the toppings were too sparse. At $2.50 apiece, they could have been more ample, we thought. My friend also wished there had been something sweet (other than pineapple) with which to top the pie.



JEB WALLACE-BRODEUR

BLUE STONE CERTAINLY DOES THE SIMPLE THINGS BEST — BASIC PIZZA, FRENCH FRIES, SALAD.

SIDEdishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

What was the nail in the coffin of the eatery and music venue? "If you look at the state of the economy, you can probably draw your own conclusion,' Gable says "It was a best-effort sort of situation. I feel that everyone truly did their best.' Neither she nor Ruiz is sure of their next step, but Gable says she hopes prospective restaurateurs will contact realtor Montpelier Property Management "to get someone else in here soon"

During a weeklong winter break, Burlington's **PISTOU** will undergo a quiet transformation. Given the involvement of **DEDALUS** wine store co-owner **JASON ZULIANI** and his wife, **EMILIE PAQUETTE**, you can be sure it involves wine

Chef **MAX MACKINNON** — who was nominated for a James Beard Foundation Award last year — will continue to serve up his French-inflected fare, but he, Zuliani and Paquette will redesign the menu to encourage sharing and pairing with some of the unusual wines that Zuliani plans to offer.

"We want people to think about what they're going to drink. The wine is going to come into focus," says Zuliani, whose reimagined list details the backstories of regions such as Beaujolais and a much-loved producer, the Rhône's Domaine Gramenon.

Paquette will manage the front of the house going forward, former Pistou partner **MAJI CHIEH** has left to pursue other interests.

Pistou is currently closed for a winter break but will reopen on January 16. To read more about the changes at the eatery, check out the Bite Club Blog at sevendaysvt.com.

The **ESSEX BAKERY & CAFÉ** in the Essex Shoppes & Cinema shut its doors at the end of 2012. The **ESSEX CULINARY RESORT & SPA**'s director of food and beverage, **ARND SIEVERS**, says the hotel's bakery outlet simply didn't get enough foot traffic.

"We got great comments about our food and the quality, but there wasn't enough business to support it," Sievers says. He notes that the same problem contributed to the closure of **RUSTICO'S**, the pasta restaurant that preceded the bakery in the same location. The restaurants that have succeeded in the spot have all been owner-operated, Sievers asserts, an impossibility for the resort.

The cakes and pastries previously sold at the bakery are now available by special order, and the breads may be purchased from the bakery case in the lobby of the Essex.

Sievers hints that the resort has big, fresh plans in the works. His only clue: The new business will *not* refill the newly empty 21 Essex Way storefront.

—A L & C H

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The Blue Stone also offers calzone and Stromboli. Despite its hulking size and delectable, nut-brown top, and despite the tide of melted mozzarella and ricotta that spilled from it, the plain calzone ($8) was too doughy. Next time, I might do better to fill it with one or two of the 44 toppings.

The Blue Stone also has generous wrap and sandwich choices, and the grilled bread of the Down Easter Wrap ($9.50) was thick and spongy; the crisp fried cod inside tasted fresh and got a kick from pickled jalapeño peppers and spicy, scallion-studded mayonnaise. A total win.

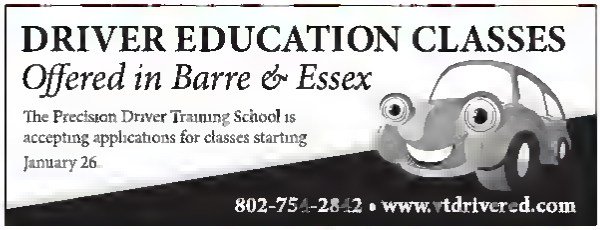
The Barnyard Burger ($9), made with meat from Northeast Family Farms, was passable and monolithic — about three-and-a-half inches high when perched on its brioche bun. Though the slices of bacon that crisscrossed it were slightly rubbery, the accompanying garlic aioli nicely slathered up the whole thing.

That aioli was also the perfect accessory for Blue Stone's praiseworthy French fries — salty, firm and fried so deeply that those evil-but-scrummy, translucent pockets formed at each end.

After all this sampling, the food at the Blue Stone was starting to seem like a paean to gluttonousness. Still, we braved a sour-cherry tart topped with a smear of mascarpone ($5), it was too treacly for me but still light and citrusy. Too light, though, was the coffee — you could almost see through it to the bottom of the mug.

Leonardo da Vinci reportedly said that simplicity is the greatest sophistication. The Blue Stone certainly does the simple things best — basic pizza, French fries, salad. The menu here will change with the seasons, the owners say, and, no matter what any critic writes, the place will probably always be buzzing. It's spacious yet enveloping, reasonably priced yet decent, and it fills a middle niche in this increasingly busy town — many skiers love pizza and beer after the slopes. But it might be wise to remember that less is more. ⑦









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Melting the Snow

Seasoned Traveler: Cool Runnings, Burlington

BY ALICE LEVITT

Last spring, Mayllet Paz received a text from a friend — a photograph of rice and beans from Burlington's Cool Runnings. It was the beginning of what would become an obsession for the Panama native — and, later, a job.

Paz, co-owner of catering company La Fondita Latina with fellow Panamanian Wilfredo Amor, began driving almost daily from her Swanton home to North Street's Cool Runnings, the Jamaican market owned by Leroy Headley. Last month, the cook, now living in Winooski, began to make her trips with more of a purpose. That's when Paz began cooking her native cuisine at Cool Runnings.

Now, guests at the small store can enjoy not only Headley's jerk chicken and curried goat but also a mix of Panamanian specialties that Paz varies daily. The two cooks are creating this taste of the tropics without a hood, using just an electric stove and Crock-Pots. The food is served at a stand at the back of the store that resembles that of a stadium vendor, complete with chafing dishes for quick service of long-cooked stews and braises.

Paz explains that construction of the Panama Canal led to the development of a unique fusion cuisine in her homeland. Typical Panamanian dishes she prepares include Mexican specialties such as tamales and mole but also Peruvian ceviches and Jamaican grub such as braised oxtail and coconut rice. Paz says her versions of the last two dishes vary from Headley's only slightly, mostly due to the subtraction of a few spices from her meat and addition of sugar in the rice to enhance the coconut taste.

The uniting factor of the cuisines at Cool Runnings is big flavor. "For us, it's just the flavor and the seasoning. So many people [in the U.S.] don't really season stuff. When they go outside the box, they use a bottle of barbecue sauce," Paz says. "In our kitchen, we season our stuff. [Vermonters] taste the flavors, and their taste buds go back to life."

On a recent Thursday, the aroma of cloves fills the air as Paz pulls a Panamanian Christmas ham from an oven that looks only slightly more serious than one made by Hasbro. Meanwhile, the spicy smoke of Scotch bonnet peppers for Headley's jerk chicken, topped with shaved slices of raw carrot, wafts to the snowy sidewalks of North Street with eye-burning intensity.

Though Paz and Headley only recently began working together, the action in the tiny kitchen is a ballet of cooperation.



MATTHEW THORSEN

Cool Runnings



Hojaldres



COURTESY OF MAYLLET PAZ

Carimanolas

Headley slides a pan of aromatic coconut rice with black beans into a chafing-dish slot, while Paz puts the finishing touches on her candy-pink ensalada de feria, a potato-and-egg salad sweetened with beets and made tangy with vinegar and mustard.

Just as their paths at work crisscross, their paths to Cool Runnings show similarities. Paz, who is now a youthful 36 ("I'm Latina, so we have good skin," she says with a laugh and a doff of her trendy newsboy cap) arrived in Vermont in January 1998, during the ice storm that knocked out power all over the state. She and her then-husband, a true native Vermonter of Abenaki heritage, were moving back to his home state. Paz says she didn't own a coat in those days and was shocked by the cold, despite embassy warnings that she would find even Vermont summers sweatshirt worthy.

A lifelong cook, Paz focused on raising her two children, now 11 and 17, until she hit on the idea of a food-delivery service for Latin farmworkers missing their warm-weather home cooking. Last summer, she got a catering license and began selling her well-seasoned fare at the Burlington Farmers Market.

Ill-fated love also brought Headley to Vermont. Originally from Negril, Jamaica, he worked for two of his brothers at their Cape Cod Jamaican restaurant until 2002,

More food after the classifieds section. PAGE 39

when he left to join the woman he would later marry, and then divorce.

To support himself, Headley drove taxis before opening a clothing and gift store called Sweet, Sweet Jamaica in the Burlington Town Center mall. However, he kept dreaming of cooking again, as he and his eight siblings had been trained to do growing up in the tourism industry. Requests from customers for island food products gave him the impetus to open the original Cool Runnings in Essex Junction in the summer of 2011.

Headley admits he hadn't considered the implications of the location — specifically the lack of diversity in the IBM-centered suburb. "We needed to be where there are black people," he says bluntly. Headley moved his business to North Street last year to cater better to the Caribbean, Latin and African populations of Burlington and Winooski.

A few African natives stopped in for a quick lunch last Thursday, while the Latin community in Vermont may be less visible, Paz says it is growing. "Two of my best girlfriends are from Panama, too," she says. "There is another grandmother, and her kids and grandkids are here [from Panama], too. You have new people coming all the time."

During *Seven Days'* lunch, several customers who popped into Cool Runnings seemed surprised to find an active food business inside. These were neighbors whispering requests for a particular pipe or spoon, a medium-size stock of which fills the store's front counter.

Cool Runnings offers sparkling belt buckles in the shapes of guns and the Lion of Judah and island-emblazoned T-shirts for sale alongside peanut-porridge mix and cans of callaloo. A good-size speaker perched atop the drink cooler blasts bass-heavy dancehall music, almost shaking the bottles of sweet and tangy Kola Champagne soda and spicy ginger beer. Wall hangings depicting Haile Selassie decorate one corner of the food stand, giving the store a thoroughly Jamaican feel — which Paz expects will soon mix with elements of Latin culture.

The cook hopes one day to have part ownership of the business. For now, she plans to add more South and Central American products to the well-stocked collection of Caribbean hot sauces and energy drinks. Currently, much of what Headley carries is sent directly from his family in Jamaica. Soon he and Paz will begin making trips to New York City to fulfill Latin customers' requests. Hard-to-find dried chiles, Costa Rican sauces, herbs and high-quality queso fresco will be available as soon as this week.

Even without easy access to such ingredients, Paz does an admirable job of creating her native flavors. Practically everything, from chile-red stewed chicken to the flavorful pork inside her banana-leaf-wrapped tamales, leaves a pleasant burn on the diner's lips. What isn't hot is still well spiced, such as the sweet and intensely aromatic ham. Platano en tentación, a sweet dish of stewed, ripe plantains, sings with cinnamon and vanilla.

The latter is a key part of the breakfasts that Paz serves every Sunday. Her warming plates are based on what her grandmother served her on Sunday mornings growing up. They include fried meat accompanied by hojaldres, or sweet, fried-dough pancakes, and Twinkie-like meat pies crusted in mashed yucca, called carimañolas.

> PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING, FROM CHILE-RED STEWED CHICKEN TO THE FLAVORFUL PORK INSIDE THE BANANA-LEAF-WRAPPED TAMALES, LEAVES A PLEASANT BURN ON THE DINER'S LIPS.

Headley, who says he loves to bake, also hopes to produce some less savory fare. Sweet coconut-flavored buns called coco bread and doughnuts called festivals are on his to-cook list. But first, he has to get through the winter.

In the summer, Headley says, customers came from Plattsburgh, Montpelier and Barre; in cold weather, he sees a smaller clientele limited to locals. To remedy the situation, he plans to begin delivery soon and advertise more to get the word out about his food. He says the slow winter has limited both him and Paz in what they're able to cook each day (they serve from noon to 10 p.m.). "I know that [Paz] can cook, but we have to finance it, too," Headley explains. "If we make the food and it doesn't really sell, we lose money."

Ultimately, Headley wants to make his small market a full-scale eatery. "Right now, I just have this electric stove," he points out. "I want to add a hood. I want a real, decent restaurant. Right now, I feel like I could do a whole lot more."

Headley is no slouch in the kitchen. His butter-bean-flecked dish of oxtails is as tender and comforting as any served in a New York soul food spot. The crust of his uncommonly spicy beef patties is so flaky that the yellow dough resembles puff pastry, and his plantains are gorgeously caramelized. And nothing is more than $10.

Teaming up with Paz and her tastes of Panama may just be the ticket to the restaurant Headley is hoping for. And to some of the biggest flavor Burlington has ever enjoyed. ⑦

Cool Runnings 78 North Street Burlington, 324-7875 or 309-9580





calendar

JANUARY 09-16, 2013

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comedy

IMPROV NIGHT Fun-loving participants play "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" style games in an encouraging environment. Spark Arts, Burlington, 8-10 p.m. $7 suggested donation. Info 373-4703

community

MENTORING DINNER & DISCUSSION Those who serve as "big buddies" in the King Street Center's program catch up over pizza. King Street Center, Burlington, 5:15-6:15 p.m. Free. Info 862-6736

crafts

GREEN MOUNTAIN CHAPTER OF THE EMBROIDERERS' GUILD OF AMERICA Needle-and-thread enthusiasts share ideas and work on current stitching projects. Pines Senior Living Community, South Burlington, 9:30 a.m. Free. Bring a bag lunch. Info 372-4255

education

LITERACY WORKSHOP FOR EARLY-CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS Abby Klein and Jill Coffin discuss infant and toddler development, along with techniques for introducing reading skills to the age group. KinderStart Preschool, Williston, 6-8 p.m. Free; preregister. Info 878-4818

environment

FOREST PLANS & CURRENT-USE PROGRAM OVERVIEW Northwoods Stewardship Center members detail the steps to creating a forest-management plan for your property. Barton Public Library, Barton, 6-7:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info 723-6551 ext. 115, events@northwoodscenter.org

etc.

MONTPELIER BOOK SALE Affordable titles of all kinds are arranged by category for easy browsing. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Free. Info 223-3338

film

"SOUL FOOD JUNKIES" This 60-minute preview of Byron Hurt's documentary examines the cuisine's ties to cultural identity and, in some cases, serious health issues. A discussion follows. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 7-9 p.m. Free. Info 223-3338. Rutland Free Library, 6-8:45 p.m. Free. Info 773-1860

food & drink

A MOSAIC OF FLAVORS: SOMALI CUISINE & RICE CHICKEN & RICE Zeinab Bulle and Madina Oayo introduce participants to a traditional dish made with various spices from their country. Sustainability Academy at Lawrence Barnes School, Burlington, 6-7:30 p.m. $5-10; preregister. Info 861-9700

SOURDOUGH "NO-KNEAD" BREAD-MAKING WORKSHOP Fred Cheyette demonstrates the entire process, from dough to finished loaf. Participants receive a sourdough starter. Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 5:30-7 p.m. $5-7; preregister. Info 223-8000 ext. 202, info@hungermountain.coop

games

ADULT BRIDGE CLUB Players of all experience levels test their memory and strategy skills with this popular card game. Milton Public Library, 1-3 p.m. Free. Info 893-4644, kdulac@town.milton.vt.us

BURLINGTON GO CLUB Folks gather weekly to play this deceptively simple, highly strategic Asian board game. Uncommon Grounds, Burlington, 7-9 p.m. Free; bring a set if you have one. Info 860-9587, dfelcan@yahoo.com

health & fitness

JEN WILLIAMSON The naturopath provides tools to strengthen the immune system in "Back to Health: Prevention and Treatment of Colds and Flu." Avalon Natural Medicine of Vermont, Burlington, 7-8 p.m. Free. Info 578-3449

MEDITATION & DISCUSSION Powerful energies arise from this participant-led session, followed by 20 minutes of meditation and a brief discussion. Inspired Yoga Studios, Jay, 5:45-7 p.m. Donations accepted. Info 988-0443

SOMATIC REMEDIES FOR SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER Certified Rolfer Robert Rex guides participants through exercises designed to improve fascia, mood, energy and well-being. Loose, comfortable clothing and yoga mats recommended. Healthy Living Market and Café, South Burlington, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info 863-2563

kids

ASPIRING NATURALISTS TEEN PROGRAM Nature-loving adolescents observe changes in the landscape and learn primitive skills such as fire by friction, carving, foraging and animal tracking. Shelburne Farms, 4:30-7 p.m. $10-15; preregister for ages 14 to 17. Info 985-0327, mburke@shelburnefarms.org

WED 09 » P42

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In the Eye of the Beholder

Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* received critical acclaim upon its 1897 stage debut and later became one of the most famous French plays of its time. Cursed with an unusually large nose but blessed with a gift for the written word, the swordsman Cyrano assumes the alias of a handsome man and pens love letters to the beautiful Roxanne — drama and hilarity unfold as he delivers them. Having rehearsed the production during a recent residency at the Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, the Aquila Theatre Company returns to reinterpret this classic tale of love and adventure for contemporary audiences.

'CYRANO DE BERGERAC'
Sunday, January 13, 5 p.m., at Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center in Stowe. $32-38. Info, 760-4634, sprucepeakarts.org



COURTESY OF THE AQUILA THEATRE COMPANY

Melodies of the Masters

Founded in 2007 by Michael Hopkins, the Burlington Chamber Orchestra brings the integrity of professional musicianship to arts education and local performances. The wind section takes center stage in the first concert of the year with a "7-8-9" program of septet, octet and nonet arrangements. Short tunes and varied harmonies in Franz Berwald's Grand Septet reflect the Swedish composer's unconventional approach to structure, while selections from Mozart's final opera, *The Magic Flute*, showcase an unorthodox composition that he considered one of his best works. Charles Gounod's Petite Symphonie follows suit with a renowned score that opens with a slow, yet powerful introduction.

BURLINGTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Saturday, January 12, 8 p.m., at McCarthy Arts Center at St. Michael's College in Colchester. $10-25. Info, 655-2768, bcovt.org



COURTESY OF BURLINGTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Speaking Volumes



COURTESY OF WILLIAM KNEEN

JAN.11 & 12 | THEATER

Helen Keller lost her sight and hearing to an illness as a toddler. Years later, she described learning to communicate via Annie Sullivan as "a little word from the fingers of another fell into my hand that clutched at emptiness and my heart leaped to the rapture of living." David Bailey directs Tuttle Middle School students in William Gibson's Tony Award-winning play, *The Miracle Worker*, which explores Keller's relationship with her innovative teacher. In association with First Light Theatre Project, the production puts acting, lighting and stage management into the hands of young people. A Q&A with the cast follows Friday's performance.

'THE MIRACLE WORKER'

Friday, January 11, and Saturday, January 12, 7 p.m., at South Burlington High School Auditorium. $5 & . Info, 652-7117, firstlighttheatrevt.com.

JAN.11 | MUSIC



COURTESY OF ANDREW SUPRUN

Soulful Sounds

Cyrus Chestnut reached for the piano keys before he could walk. He began playing with earnest at age 3 and later stood out at the Berklee College of Music. Known for incorporating gospel, Latin and samba into jazz, the versatile musician also crafts compelling improvisations. This unique style, along with his playful demeanor, has granted the pianist access to greats such as Dizzy Gillespie and Chick Corea, as well as the Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall jazz orchestras. The virtuoso leads the Cyrus Chestnut Trio, which features acclaimed bassist Eric Wheeler and rising star Billy Williams on drums.

CYRUS CHESTNUT TRIO

Friday, January 11, 8 p.m., at Mahaney Center for the Arts Concert Hall, Middlebury College. $6-25. Info, 443-3168, middlebury.edu.

WED 09 « P 40

BABYTIME PLAYGROUP Crawling tots and their parents convene for playtime and sharing. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 10:30 a.m.–noon. Free; preregister. Info: 658-3059.

ENOSBURG PLAYGROUP Children and their adult caregivers immerse themselves in singing and other activities. American Legion, Enosburg Falls, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

FAIRFIELD PLAYGROUP Youngsters find entertainment in creative activities and snack time. Gent Northrop Memorial Library, Fairfield, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

HIGHGATE STORY HOUR Gigglers and wigglers listen to age-appropriate lit. Highgate Public Library, 11–11:15 a.m. Free. Info: 868-3970.

MONTGOMERY STORY HOUR Good listeners are rewarded with an earful of tales and a mouthful of snacks. Montgomery Town Library, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

MOVING & GROOVING WITH CHRISTINE Two- to 5-year-olds jam out to rock-and-roll and world-beat tunes. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 865-7216.

PAJAMA STORY TIME Evening tales send kiddos off to bed. Berkshire Elementary School, 6–7 p.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

ST. ALBANS PLAYGROUP Creative activities and storytelling engage young minds. NCSS Family Center, St. Albans, 9–10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

STORY TIME & PLAYGROUP Read-aloud tales pave the way for themed art, nature and cooking projects. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 426-3581.

STUDENT MATINEE SERIES: ANIMAL FARM The National Players perform the theatrical adaptation of George Orwell's provocative allegory in which animals take over Manor Farm only to find themselves dealing with similar predicaments as their human counterparts. Flynn MainStage, Burlington, 9:30 a.m. $8. For grades 5 to 12. Info: 863-5966.

TODDLER TAEKWONDO Kellie Thomas of K.I.C.K.S. leads little ones in a playful introduction to this ancient martial art. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury, 10:15–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 388-4369.

YOUTH MEDIA LAB Aspiring Spielbergs learn about movie making with local television experts. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Free; preregister. limited space. Info: 388-4097.

seminars

BEGINNER COMPUTER CLASS Those looking to become tech savvy hone basic skills. Milton Public Library, 1:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info: 893-4644.

CREATING A FINANCIAL FUTURE SERIES Create a long-term savings plan and explore investing while learning about these specific aspects of money management. Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Burlington, 6–8 p.m. Free. Info: 860-1417 ext. 114.

HERBAL CLASS Instructor Sage Zelkowitz helps participants make calendula cream, a multipurpose concoction which soothes dry, winter skin. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 3–5 p.m. $1–10 materials fee. Info, 426-3581, jaquithpublibrary@gmail.com.

INTRO TO DIGITAL RESOURCES Participants with tablets or eReaders learn about the devices and how to access a wide range of services using their library cards. Fairfax Community Library, 5:30–6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 849-2420.

KETS TO CREDIT Money-unwise? Learn the basics of the important, but often confusing, world of credit, including how it is established and improved. Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Burlington, 10 a.m.–noon. Free. Info: 860-1417 ext. 114.

SIMPLICITY PARENTING WORKSHOP Abigail Diehl Noble leads an evening based on the principles of Kim John Payne, which aim to strengthen individual family values and provide practical tools for change. Lake Champlain Waldorf School, Shelburne, 7–8:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info: 985-2827 ext. 12, pgraham@lakechamplainwaldorfschool.org.

sport

GREEN MOUNTAIN TABLE TENNIS CLUB Ping-pong players swing their paddles in singles and doubles matches. Knights of Columbus, Rutland, 7–10 p.m. Free for first two sessions; $30 annual membership. Info: 247-5913.

TRAPP NORDIC CUP 2012-13 Race against the clock in the first of 12 weekly nordic 5K skate and/or timed trials at the home of the first cross-country ski center in the U.S. Trapp Family Lodge Nordic Center, Stowe, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. $8, plus trail pass; see trappfamily.com for specific prices. Info: 253-5719.

talks

TULE FOGG The Craftsbury Academy art instructor shares photos, stories and artifacts from her summer 2012 travels to Thailand through UVM's teacher exchange program. Craftsbury Public Library, 1:30 p.m. Free. Info: 586-9683.

WILD NEIGHBORS LECTURE SERIES Natural history and animal tracking expert Sue Morse presents "Cougar Returns to the East." Outdoor Gear Exchange, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. $5. Info: 860-0190.

theater

AUDITIONS FOR 'CLOSER THAN EVER' Community members showcase their skills for Richard Maltby Jr. and David Shire's hit off-Broadway musical about the anguish and hilarity of contemporary living. Callbacks set for January 10. Alumni Auditorium, Champlain College, Burlington, 6:30–10:30 p.m. Free; preregister for time slot. Info: 878-6589.

THU.10

crafts

WOMEN'S CRAFT GROUP Inventive females work on artful projects at a biweekly meet up. Essex Alliance Church, 7–9 p.m. Free. Info: 238-2291.

etc.

BATH SALTS, BATH FIZZIES & BODY SCRUBS City Market's herbalist education coordinator Cristi Nunziata teaches participants to make natural remedies for relaxation, sore muscles and more. City Market, Burlington, 5:30–6:30 p.m. $5–10; preregister. Info: 861-9700.

MONTPELIER ROOT SALE See WED 09. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

food & drink

GREAT KITCHEN MEDICINE FOR WINTER HEALTH Holistic health coach Marie Frohlich discusses how to combine herbs, spices and certain foods to help build immunity. Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 5:30–7 p.m. $10–12; preregister. Info: 223-3000 ext. 202, info@hungermountain.coop.

kids

ALBURGH PLAYGROUP Tots form friendships over music and movement. Alburgh Family Center of NCSS, 9:30–11 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

BOOK ART Children in grades 3 to 5 learn about different genres and make posters to illustrate their favorite reads. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 3 p.m. Free; preregister. Info: 878-4918.

FLETCHER TUMBLE TIME Exuberant youngsters find an outlet for all of that energy. Gymnasium, Fletcher Elementary School, Cambridge, 9–10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

FRANKLIN STORY HOUR Lovers of the written word perk up for read-aloud tales and adventures with lyrics. Haston Library, Franklin, 10–10:45 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

HOMESCHOOLING SERIES: ADAPTATIONS Examination of animal teeth and skulls reveals identities and key information about how certain species lived. VINS Nature Center, Quechee, 10–11:30 a.m. $10–12; preregister; separate sessions for grades 1–3 and 4–6. Info, 359-5000 ext. 223.

MIDDLEBURY PRESCHOOL STORY TIME Little learners master early literacy skills through tales, rhymes and songs. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury, 10:30–11:15 a.m. Free. Info: 388-4369.

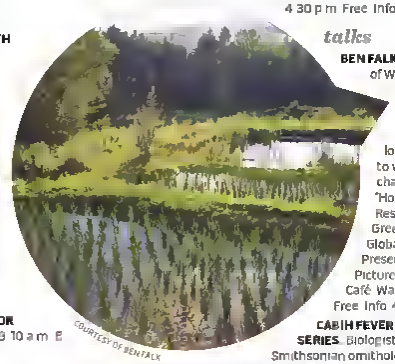
MONTGOMERY INFANT/TODDLER PLAYGROUP Infants to 2-year-olds idle away the hours with stories and songs. Montgomery Town Library, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 527-5426.

MUSIC WITH RAPHAEL Preschoolers up to age 5 bust out song and dance moves to traditional and original folk music. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 10:30 a.m. Free; limited to one session per week per family. Info: 878-4918.

READ TO A DOG Bookworms share words with a friendly, fuzzy therapy pooch. Fairfax Community Library, 3–4:15 p.m. Free; preregister for a time slot. Info: 849-2420.

TEEN WII CHALLENGE Adolescents show off their physical gaming skills in bouts of friendly competition. Milton Public Library, 3:30–5 p.m. Free; preregister for ages 12 and up. Info: 893-4644.

VOLUNTEENS Eager readers make library plans involving books, technology and ... zombies. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Free. Info: 388-4097.



talks

BEN FALK The founder of Whole Systems Design and Research Farm examines local solutions to worldwide challenges in "Homestead Resiliency: A Green Mountain Global Forum Presentation." Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 496-4566.

CABIN FEVER LECTURE SERIES Biologist and former Smithsonian ornithologist Warren King presents "From Christmas to Easter Seabirds of the Pacific Islands." Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 388-4369.

CHOICES FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING DISCUSSION SERIES "A Call to Sustainability" explores the multifaceted concept from individual, societal and global perspectives. Quechee Public Library, 6:30–8 p.m. Free. Info: 295-1232.

theater

AUDITIONS FOR 'THE THREEPENNY OPERA' Gangster comedy meets critique of 20th-century capitalism in Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill's musical, to be produced by the Middlebury Community Players. Callbacks scheduled for January 13. Room 229, Axinn Center, Starr Library, Middlebury College, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 373-2556 or 989-1901, bmatthia@middlebury.edu.

words

BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES: 20TH-CENTURY PRESIDENTS Linda Bland facilitates conversation about David McCullough's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Truman*. Fairfax Community Library, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 849-2420.

BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES: UNDERSTANDING POST-COLONIAL AFRICA Community members share ideas about Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *The River Between*. Morristown Centennial Library, Morrisville, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 888-2616.

GARY KOWALSKI The local reverend and author signs and discusses his book, *Blessings of the Animals*, which includes true stories about wild life, meditation, technology and more. Phoenix Books Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 448-3350.

VICKI HOEFLE. The educator and author of *Duct Tape Parenting: A Less Is More Approach to Raising Respectful, Responsible and Resilient Kids* shares her approach to child rearing. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 5:30–8 p.m. Free. Info: 223-4665.

FRI.11

comedy

STROKE TOUR JOKE VI Local laugh-getters perform brief material during an evening of open-mic sets. Espresso Bueno, Barre, 7:30–10 p.m. Donations. Info: 793-3824.

dance

BALLROOM LESSON & DANCE SOCIAL. Singles and couples of all experience levels take a twirl. Jazzercize Studio, Williston, lesson 7–8 p.m., open dancing 8–10 p.m. $14. Info: 862-2269.

QUEEN CITY CONTRA DANCE Randy Miller, David Cantieni and Roger Kahle dole out live tunes at this long-standing New England tradition. Edmunds School, Gymnasium, Burlington, 8–11 p.m. Beginners session at 7:45 p.m. $8; free for kids under 12. Info, 371-9492 or 343-7165.

etc.

MONTPELIER ROOT SALE See WED 09. 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

film

JIMI HENDRIX: LIVE AT WOODSTOCK The legendary guitarist's complete set, including his unforgettable version of "The Star-Spangled Banner," comes to the big screen with digitally restored film and new audio. Town Hall Theater, Middlebury, 8 p.m. $10. Info: 382-9222.

OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FESTIVAL BROADCAST A weekend of films highlights "Best of the Fest" selections from 2010 and 2012, along with works by top claymation studios and cartoon adaptations of popular comedians. Black Family Visual Arts Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7 p.m. $5–10. Info: 603-646-2422.

health & fitness

AVOID FALLS WITH IMPROVED STABILITY A personal trainer demonstrates daily practices for seniors concerned about their balance. Pines Sen or Living Community, South Burlington. 10 a.m. $5. Info, 658-7477.

kids

ENOSBURG FALLS STORY HOUR Young ones show up for fables and finger crafts. Enosburg Public Library, Enosburg Falls. 9:10 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP Kiddos convene for fun via crafts, circle time and snacks. Health Room, Bellows Free Academy, Fairfax. 9:10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

ISLE LA MOTTE PLAYGROUP Stories and crafts make for creative play. Isle La Motte Elementary School. 7:30–9:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

MONTGOMERY TUMBLE TIME Physical fitness activities help build strong muscles. Montgomery Elementary School. 10–11 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

PAJAMA PARTY Little ones dress for bed and listen to stories about "Terrific Turtles" before meeting the creatures firsthand. Snacks provided. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Quechee. 6:30–7:15 p.m. $8–10 for first adult and child; $3–4 for each additional participant; preregister. Info, 359-5000, ext. 223.

PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR As part of the ongoing "Race: Are We So Different?" exhibit, little ones learn about race and racism through literature and personal stories. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington. 11 a.m. Regular admission $9.50–12.50; free for kids ages 2 and under. Info, 877-324-6386.

SWANTON PLAYGROUP Kids and caregivers squeeze in quality time over imaginative play and snacks. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Swanton. 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

TODDLER TIME Little ones build literacy skills with stories, songs, rhymes and crafts. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 10:30 a.m. Free for kids ages 1 to 3. Info, 878-4918.

music

CYRUS CHESTNUT TRIO The virtuosic pianist's hard-swinging music blends contemporary and traditional jazz with gospel and a touch of Latin and samba. See calendar spotlight. Concert Hall, Mahaney Center for the Arts, Middlebury College. 8 p.m. $6–25. Info, 443-3168.

seminars

MODELING WORKSHOP: ALEWIFE & SMELT INTERACTIONS Lake Champlain Research Institute's Mark Malchoff joins professionals from Cornell and UVM to explore the effects of alewife on native fish and their ecosystem. Content aimed at a technical audience. Alumni Conference Room, Angell College Center, SUNY Plattsburgh, N.Y. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Free; preregister at janet.manor@plattsburgh.edu. Info, 518-564-3095.

talks

ABBY RAEDER The executive director of the Vermont Institute of Contemporary Arts speaks on "Capturing the Creative Impulse." Godnick Adult Center, Rutland. 1:30 p.m. Free. Info, 446-2041.

BRUCE POST The Vermont historian presents "The Paradox of the Green Mountain Parkway," in which he examines the implications of the 1936 decision against the proposed roadway. Capital City Grange, Montpelier. 7 p.m. $5–8; free for kids under 12. Info, 244-7037.

PENNI CROSS This member of the Dragonheart Vermont team, all members of which are breast cancer survivors, shares stories and photographs from the world championships in Hong Kong. Faith United Methodist Church, South Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 863-6764.

theater

AN EVENING OF CABARET Matt Sorensen and Kenney M. Green entertain with Broadway show tunes, jazz standards, popular oldies and more. Lake Placid Center for the Arts, N.Y. 8 p.m. $15. Info, 518-523-2512.

'THE MIRACLE WORKER' First Light Theatre Project and Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School present William Gibson's Tony award–winning play about Helen Keller and her innovative teacher, Annie Sullivan. See calendar spotlight. A Q&A with the cast follows the Friday performance. South Burlington High School Auditorium. 7 p.m. $5–8. Info, 652-7117.

SAT.12

activism

NUO THE ATHENAEUM St. Johnsbury residents, Rural Librarians Unite and the Vermont Library Association join hands and wrap around the building in solidarity with Athenaeum staff. St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, noon. Free. Info, 748-8291; inform@stjathenaeum.org.

crafts

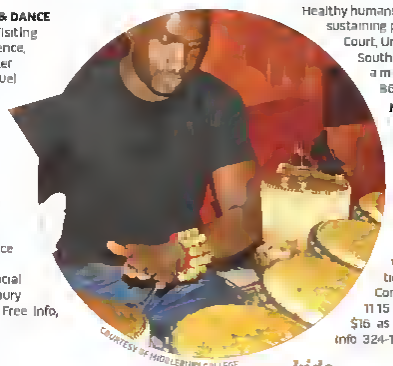
MAKE YOUR OWN BIRTHDAY CARDS Creative types tap into the DIY spirit with Kelly Diglio, who lends her expertise and assists with assembly. Fairfax Community Library, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. $5 for two card kits; $2 for each additional card; preregister. Info, 603-405-2213; artsycard@gmail.com.

dance

CONTRA DANCE & POTLUCK DINNER Chris Weiler calls this traditional New England dance while American Toad provide live music. Caledonia Grange, East Hardwick; potluck at 5:30 p.m.; dancing at 6:30 p.m. $5–25 suggested donation. Info, 472-5584.

NORWICH CONTRA DANCE Folks in clean-soled shoes move to tunes by Northern Spy and calling by David Millstone. Tracy Hall, Norwich. 8 p.m. $5–8; free for kids under 16; by donation for seniors. Info, 785-4607, rbarrows@cs.dartmouth.edu.

PERCUSSION & DANCE EXPLOSION Visiting artist in residence, Ugandan master drummer Samuel Bakkabulindi gives an interactive performance featuring Damascus Kafumbe and Chnstal Brown, assistant professors of music and dance, respectively. McCullough Social Space, Middlebury College. 8 p.m. Free. Info, 443-6433.


COURTESY OF MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

etc.

MONTPELIER BOOK SALE See WED.09, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

film

OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FESTIVAL BROADCAST See FRI.11, 2 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

WOODSTOCK FILM SERIES James March's Academy Award–winning documentary *Man on Wire* presents Philippe Petit's 1974 high-wire performance between New York City's Twin Towers. Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock. 3 p.m. $5–11. Info, 457-2355.

food & drink

BAKE & SHAKE: BREAD & BUTTER MAKING Kitchen enthusiasts take a wheat plant, remove the berries, grind them into flour and create one-of-a-kind loaves, then transform cream to spread on top. Shelburne Farms. 9:30–11:30 a.m. & 12:30–2:30 p.m. $5–6; preregister. Info, 985-8686.

JANE AUSTEN TEA This Victorian-style affair pays tribute to the writer with readings and discussions. Governor's House, Hyde Park. 3 p.m. $25; preregister. Info, 888-6888.

NORWICH WINTER FARMERS MARKET Farmers offer produce, meats and maple syrup, which complement homemade baked goods and handcrafted items such as pottery and jewelry from local artists. Tracy Hall, Norwich. 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 384-7447.

PORK ROAST SUPPER Community members raise their forks at a buffet-style meal that includes mashed potatoes, stuffing, apple sauce and dessert. United Methodist Church, Vergennes. 5–6:30 p.m. $4–8. Info, 877-3150.

RUTLAND WINTER FARMERS MARKET More than 50 vendors sell local produce, cheese, homemade bread and other made-in-Vermont products at this indoor venue. Vermont Farmers Food Center, Rutland. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info, 779-1485.

SUSHI SATURDAY Himitsu Sushi pop-up restaurant transforms the tasting room with made-to-order offerings of this popular Japanese food. Fresh Tracks Farm Vineyard & Winery, Berlin. 5–9 p.m. Cost of food and drink; cash only. Info, 223-1151.

games

BEN T. MATCHSTICK Dungeons and Dragons fans celebrate the return of the gaming master with an afternoon of inspired recreation. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier. 1–3 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

health & fitness

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Healthy humans part with life-sustaining pints. Center Court, University Mall, South Burlington. 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Free. Info, 863-1066, ext. 11.

MONTRÉAL-STYLE ACRO YOGA Using partner and group work, Lori Flower leads participants through poses that combine acrobatics with therapeutic benefits. The Confluence, Berlin. 11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m. $16; as space permits. Info, 324-1737.

kids

FRANKLIN PLAYGROUP Toddlers and their adult companions meet peers for tales and sing-alongs. Franklin Central School. 10 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

FRANKLIN TUMBLE TIME Snacks power free play in the gymnasium. Franklin Central School. 9:10 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

OPEN TOT GYM & INFANT/PARENT PLAYTIME Tykes work up an appetite for snacks with feats of athleticism. Gymnasium, Bellows Free Academy, Fairfax. 10:11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

SATURDAY STORY TIME Little ones and their caregivers listen to creative tales that engage young minds. Phoenix Books Burlington. 11 a.m. Free. Info, 448-3350.

SWANTON TUMBLE TIME Vivacious youngsters monkey around in an open gym. Mary Babcock Elementary School, Swanton. 9:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

music

BURLINGTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA The wind section performs a "7-8-9" program featuring Berwald's Grand Septet, an octet arrangement of Mozart's *Magic Flute* and Gounod's Petite Symphonie for nine winds. See calendar spotlight. McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 8 p.m. $10–25. Info, 655-2768.

DAVE KELLER Vermont's award-winning soul and blues artist plays a solo show. Adamant Community Club. 7 p.m. An optional potluck precedes the concert at 5:30 p.m. $10–15; bring a dish to share if attending potluck. Info, 458-7054.

MODERN GRASS QUINTET This group of seasoned bluegrass musicians, many of whom are multi-instrumentalists, brings its progressive sound to the stage. Eumham Hall, Lincoln. 7:30 p.m. $3–8. Info, 388-6863.

WOMENSING & FRIENDS The local group performs spirited a cappella world music with special guests Isabelle Clark and Va et Vient. North End Studios, Burlington. 7:30–9:30 p.m. $10. Info, 453-3310.

outdoors

LOGS TO LUMBER: FOREST MANAGEMENT AT THE FARM Woodland team members Art and Richard Lavigne discuss and demonstrate the art of tree felling. Shelburne Farms. 10 a.m.–noon. $15–20; preregister. Info, 985-8686.

SLEIGH RIDES Weather permitting, jingling horses trot visitors over the snow on a wintry tour of rolling acres. Rides leave every half hour; seats are first come, first served. Shelburne Farms. 11 a.m.–2 p.m. $5–8; free for kids under 3. Info, 985-8442.

SNOWSHOE TRACKING WALK The Winooski Valley Park District's environmental educator leads participants around a 2.5-mile loop to observe signs of wildlife. Snowshoes, binoculars and track identification materials provided to those who need them. Colchester Pond, 10 a.m. Free. Info, 863-5744, amencorps@wpcd.org.

sport

DRAVITY CONTROL RAIL JAM Shredders throw down tricks and compete for cash and prizes. Smugglers' Notch Resort, Jeffersonville; registration from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; event starts at noon. $20. Info, 644-8851.

RACE TO THE CABIN Test your speed on cross-country skis in a 5K showdown to Slayton Pasture Cabin, then celebrate with a party at the finish line. Trapp Family Lodge Nordic Center, Stowe. 10 a.m. $25. Info, 760-7956.

talks

'RACE & IDENTITY IN VERMONT' Part of the ongoing Community Conversation Series, this daylong event includes a performance by the African hip-hop trio A2VT, a discussion of Asian American identity issues and films about Native American culture. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. $2. Info, 864-1848, ext. 125.

SAT.12 » P.44

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calendar

SAT 12 « P.43

TYLER ST. CYR The education attorney and former school psychologist discusses practical strategies for dealing with bullying. 299 College St., Burlington. 1–2.30 p.m. Free. preregister at ts@tylerstcyr.net. Info 578.6866. ts@tylerstcyr.net.

theater

AUDITIONS FOR 'THE THREEPENNY OPERA' See THU.10. Town Hall Theater, Middlebury. 2 p.m.

'NOYE'S FLUDDE' A twist on the biblical tale of Noah's Ark, this one-act production by the Opera Theatre of Weston considers the balance of nature, man and God. Weston Playhouse. 2 p.m. $15-28. Info 775-0903.

OPEN CALL AUDITIONS Performers looking to join Spark Arts' casting database bring five minutes of material such as dance routines, monologues, a cappella song cuts, juggling and more. 180 Flynn Avenue, Burlington. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free. preregisterr at natalie@sparkartsvt.com. Info_373-4703.

THE MET: LIVE IN HD SERIES ENCORE Elīna Garanča stars as the male character Sesto in a broadcast production of one of Mozart's final masterpieces, *La Clemenza di Tito*. Lake Placid Center for the Arts, N.Y. 1 p.m. $12-18. Info 518.523.2512.

'THE MIRACLE WORKER' See FRI.11. 7 p.m.

SUN.13

bazaars

MONTPELIER ANTIQUES MARKET Lovers of all things yesteryear peruse offerings of furniture, art, toys, books, photos and ephemera from the New England area. Elks Club, Montpelier. 7:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. $2-5. Info 751-6138.

community

MEMORIAL TREE LIGHTING & REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY This annual Vermont Respite House tradition honors 2012 residents with lighted bulbs, which attendees can purchase in the names of others who have also passed. Williston Federated Church. 2–4 p.m. Suggested donation of a $10 bulb to be lit.

conferences

NOFA OF VERMONT'S DIRECT MARKETING CONFERENCE Market experts provide networking opportunities and strategic workshops for local food growers. Day of registration from 8:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. conference at 8 a.m. Vermont Law School, South Royalton. 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. $40-50; includes lunch and refreshments. free for NOFA-VT journey farmers and one representative per member farmers market. Info 434-4122.

dance

SACRED CIRCLE DANCING Melly Sock leads participants through ancient and modern movement patterns set to slow, gentle, international music. No experience or partner needed. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 2–4 p.m. Free. Info 878.424.7968.

film

OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FESTIVAL BROADCAST See FRI.11. 2 p.m.

food & drink

SOURDOUGH BASICS Phil Merrick of August First discusses the history of baking bread, how to manage a culture and more. Participants receive a sourdough starter. City Market, Burlington. 1–2:30 p.m. $5-10; preregister. Info 861-9700.

language

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP: DIMANCHES Parlez vous français? Speakers practice the tongue at a casual drop-in chat. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 4–5:30 p.m. Free. Info, 540-0195.

music

NORTHEAST FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION MEETING Lovers of this spirited art form — players and the public alike — gather to catch up and jam. Knights of Columbus Hall, Barre. noon–5 p.m. Donations accepted. Info 728-5188.

THE WASHED UP REULAN RAND Using rich vocals, syncopated rhythms and "train whistle" harmonies, the group performs jubilee-style radio gospel music from 1930s and 40s. Bethany Church, Montpelier. 7 p.m. $10-15 suggested donation for seniors. Info 454-1979, heidi@earthwalkvermont.org.

WESTFORD MUSIC SERIES The Irregulars, an award-winning group of young musicians, perform traditional fiddle tunes from various genres. United Church of Westford. 4–5 p.m. Free. Info 879-4028.

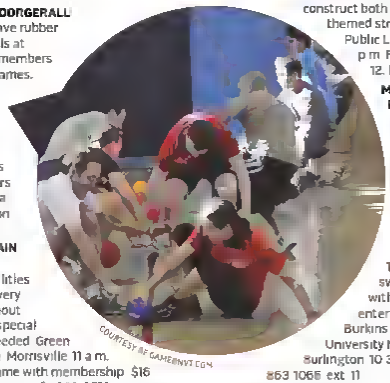
outdoors

SLEIGH RIDES See SAT.12, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

sport

ADULT PICKUP DODGEBALL Participants heave rubber coated foam balls at opposing team members during weekly games. Robert Miller Community & Recreation Center, Burlington. 1–3 p.m. $5 for ages 15 and up; players under 18 need parental permission. Info 578.6081.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CURLING CLUB Players of all abilities sweep the ice every Sunday throughout the season. No special equipment is needed. Green Mountain Arena, Morrisville. 11 a.m.–1 p.m. $12 per game with membership; $16 per game otherwise. Info 888-2816.


COURTESY OF GAMEBENVT.COM

WOMEN'S PICKUP SOCCER Ladies of varying skill levels break a sweat while passing around the spherical polyhedron. Miller Community and Recreation Center, Burlington. 6–8 p.m. $3 for women ages 18 and up. Info 864-0123.

theater

'CYRANO DE BERGERAC' Aquilla Theatre Company presents the romantic adventures of a swordsman whose famously huge nose complicates his pursuit of Roxanne, whom he admires from afar. See calendar spotlight. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, Stowe Mountain Resort. 5 p.m. Info 760-4634.

'NOYE'S FLUDDE' See SAT.12. 2 p.m.

MON.14

community

BRADFORD 250TH CELEBRATION PLANNING MEETING Townspeople gather to discuss ideas for honoring the unique history of the place they call home. Bradford Academy. 7 p.m. Free. Info 222-4423.

food & drink

MILTON COMMUNITY DINNER SERIES Neighbors share a meal and watch a short film on the HBO documentary series "Weight of the Nation," which inspires discussion on health and wellness. Screenings at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Milton Elementary School. 4–7 p.m. Donations. Info 893-3215 ext. 1164.

VEGETARIAN COOKING Jason Frishman of FolkFoods prepares a meal of tempeh (cultured soybeans) and various side dishes. Sustainability Academy, Lawrence Barnes School, Burlington. 6–7:30 p.m. $5-10; preregister. Info 861-9700.

health & fitness

AVOID FALLS WITH IMPROVED STABILITY See FRI.11. 10 a.m.

NERRAL CONSULTATIONS Betzy Bancroft, Larken Bunce, Guido Mase and students from the Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism provide personalized sessions focused on individual constitutions and current health conditions. City Market, Burlington. 4–7 p.m. Free. preregister at info@vtherbcenter.org. Info 861-9700.

kids

LEGOS AT THE LIBRARY Creative minds use brightly colored interlocking blocks to construct both individual and themed structures. Milton Public Library. 3:30–5 p.m. Free. for ages 7 to 12. Info 893-4644.

MIDDLEBURY PRESCHOOL STORY TIME. See THU.10. 10:30–11:15 a.m.

MUSIC WITH RAPHAEL See THU.10. 10:45 a.m.

SHAKE YOUR SILLIES OUT Tots sing and sway to music with children's entertainer Derek Burkins. JCPenney Court, University Mall, South Burlington. 10:35 a.m. Free. Info 863.1066 ext. 11.

SOUTH HERO PLAYGROUP Free play, crafting and snacks entertain children and their grown-up companions. South Hero Congregational Church. 9:30–11 a.m. Free. Info 527-5426.

STORIES WITH MEGAN Preschoolers expand their imagination through tales, songs and rhymes. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 11–11:30 a.m. Free. Info 865-7216.

STUDENT MATINEE SERIES: 'THE UGLY DUCKLING' & 'THE TORTOISE & THE HARE' Using electroluminescent wire that glows on a darkened stage, Lightwire Theater creates three-dimensional creatures to tell these classic Hans Christian Andersen tales. Flynn MainStage, Burlington. 9:30 a.m. & noon. $8; for grades K to 4. Info 863.5966.

SWANTON PLAYGROUP Kids and caregivers squeeze in quality time over imaginative play and snacks. Mary Babcock Elementary School, Swanton. 9:30–11 a.m. Free. Info 527-5426.

WILLISTON PAJAMA STORY TIME Kids in PJs bring their favorite stuffed animals for stories with Abby Klein, a craft and a bedtime snack. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 6:30 p.m. Free. preregister. Info 497-3946.

language

SPANISH IMMERSION CLASS An experienced teacher offers an interactive music class en español. Tulsi Tea Room, Montpelier. 9–9:45 a.m. $15 for ages 1–5. Info, 917-1776, constanciag@gmail.com.

music

RECORDER PLAYING GROUP Musicians produce early folk, baroque and swing jazz melodies. New and potential players welcome. Presto Music Store, South Burlington. 7–8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 658-0030, info@prestomusic.net.

SAMBATUCADA! OPEN REHEARSAL New players are welcome to pitch in as Burlington's samba street percussion band sharpens its tunes. Experience and instruments are not required. 8 Space Studio Collective, Burlington. 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 862-5017.

seminars

KEYS TO CREDIT See WED.09, 6–8 p.m.

talks

GOING SOLAR WITHOUT GOING BROKE SunCommon's Jessica Edgerly Walsh discusses financing options as well as state and federal incentives for harnessing the sun's energy. Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 5:30–6:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 223-8000, ext. 202, info@hungermountain.coop.

TECH TALK. Community members learn about the latest high-tech trends and receive tutorials for their devices, including social media and email setup. Milton Public Library, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 893-4644.

WELLNESS & RESILIENCE PROGRAM COMMUNITY LECTURE SERIES Vicki Hoefle, author of *Duct Tape Parenting: A Less Is More Approach to Raising Respectful, Responsible and Resilient Kids*, shares her approach to child rearing. Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School Library, South Burlington, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free; preregister at parentingontrack.com. Info, 343-8966.

words

SHAPE & SHARE LIFE STORIES Prompts trigger true tales, which are crafted into compelling narratives and read aloud. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 12:30–2:30 p.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

TUE.15

community

READING WITH FROSTY & FRIENDS THERAPY DOGS Participants of all ages bring a book and read to canines who comfort. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Free; preregister for 10-minute individual sessions. Info, 878-4918.

film

SOUL FOOD JUNKIES See WED.09, FlynnSpace, Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 863-5966.

games

CHESS CLUB Checkmate! Players of all ages and abilities apply expert advice from a skilled instructor to games with others. Fairfax Community Library, 3–4 p.m. Free. Info, 849-2420, knorwood@fwsu.org.

health & fitness

HANDS-ON HEALING CIRCLE Attendees experience the various benefits of energy work through touch. Rainbow Institute, Burlington, 7:30–9 p.m. $10. Info, 777-1138.

LAUGHTER YOGA What's so funny? Giggles burst out as gentle aerobic exercise and yogic breathing meet unconditional laughter to enhance physical, emotional and spiritual health and well-being. Miller Community and Recreation Center, Burlington, 5 p.m. Free. Info, 355-5129.

PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, MENTAL & SPIRITUAL HEALTH Brennan Healing Science practitioner Isabelle Meulet leads a discussion about positive and negative contributions to the body, mind, state. Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 6–7:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 223-8000, ext. 202, info@hungermountain.coop.

kids

CREATIVE TUESDAYS Artists engage their imaginations with recycled crafts. Kids under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 3–5 p.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

FAIRFAX STORY HOUR Good listeners up to age 6 are rewarded with tales, crafts and activities. Fairfax Community Library, 9:30–10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 849-2420.

HIGHGATE STORY HOUR See WED.09, 10–11 a.m.

MUSIC WITH ROBERT Music lovers of all ages join sing-alongs with Robert Resnik. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11:15–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR Three- to 5-year-olds keep their hands busy with crafts at tale time. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 11 a.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

RICHFORD PLAYGROUP Rug rats let their hair down for tales and activities. Cornerstone Bridges to Life Community Center, Richford, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 527-5426.

language

FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP Beginners to intermediate French speakers brush up on their linguistics — en français. Halvorson's Uptsreet Café, Burlington, 4:30–6 p.m. Free. Info, 540-0195.

PAUSE-CAFÉ FRENCH CONVERSATION Francophiles of all levels speak the country's language at a drop-in conversation. Mr. Crepe, Burlington, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 540-0195.

music

BURLINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY AUDITIONS The 100-voice concert choir led by Richard Riley welcomes new singers for its April concert, which will feature works by Lauridsen and Taverne. St. Paul's Cathedral, Burlington, 6–8 p.m. Free; preregister at bcssingerz@gmail.com. Info, 864-0788.

YOUNG ARTISTS ANNUAL CONCERT Pianists Kevin Chiang, Tyler Emerson, Jonathan Kroll and Theodore Minh join flutist Jillian Reed in works by Chopin, Brahms and others. St. Paul's Cathedral, Burlington, noon–1 p.m. Free; bring a bag lunch. Info, 864-0471.

seminars

SPEND SMART SERIES This practical introduction to money management focuses on personalized financial goals. Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Burlington, 6–8 p.m. Free. Info, 860-1417, ext. 114.

talks

SAMUEL SAKKASULINDI As part of a four-week residency, the master drummer and dancer discusses the arts in his country in "Sound, Movement and Ethnicity in Uganda." Mahaney Center for the Arts, Middlebury College, 4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 443-6433.

TECH TALK See MON.14, 1 p.m.

VEN. AMY MILLER The director of the Milarepa Center in Barnet offers insights and practical antidotes to negative mind states. Meditation and discuss on included. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 6:7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

words

JOHN & HANK GREEN: AN EVENING OF AWESOME WEBCAST A live broadcast from Carnegie Hall features the "vlogbrothers" as they celebrate the one-year anniversary of John's best seller *The Fault in Our Stars*, with special guests the Mountain Goats. Phoenix Books, Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 448-3350.

WED.16

comedy

IMPROV NIGHT See WED.09, 8–10 p.m.

community

COMMUNITY DINNER Diners get to know their neighbors at a low-key buffet-style meal organized by the Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community. O'Brien Community Center, Winooski, 5:30–7 p.m. Free; children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult; transportation available for seniors. Info, 655-4565.

HOMESHARE VERMONT'S OPEN HOUSE Those interested in homesharing and/or caregiving programs meet with staff to learn more. HomeShare Vermont, South Burlington. Informational session from 2 p.m.–3 p.m.; meet and greet with staff from 3 p.m.–8 p.m. Free; preregister at 863-5825.

crafts

KNITTING & CROCHETING GROUP Needleworkers of all levels gather to share ideas and work on current projects. Milton Public Library, 1 p.m. Free. Info, 893-4644.

food & drink

PRESERVING THE HARVEST: ORANGE MARMALADE Award-winning canner Robin Berger teaches fellow foodies how to make this sweet citrus concoction with many uses. Sustainability Academy, Lawrence Barnes School, Burlington, 6–7:30 p.m. $5–10; preregister. Info, 861-5700.

games

ADULT BRIDGE CLUB See WED.09, 1–3 p.m.

BURLINGTON GO CLUB See WED.09, 7–9 p.m.

health & fitness

MEDITATION & DISCUSSION See WED.09, 5:45–7 p.m.

kids

BABYTIME PLAYGROUP See WED.09, 10:30 a.m.–noon.

ENOSBURG PLAYGROUP See WED.09, 10–11:30 a.m.

FAIRFIELD PLAYGROUP See WED.09, 10–11:30 a.m.

HIGHGATE STORY HOUR See WED.09, 11:15 a.m.

MOVING & GROOVING WITH CHRISTINE See WED.09, 11:11:30 a.m.

ST. ALBANS PLAYGROUP See WED.09, 9:10:30 a.m.

STORY TIME & PLAYGROUP See WED.09, 10–11:30 a.m.

TODDLER TAEKWONDO See WED.09, 10:15–11:30 a.m.

WINTER MYSTERIES Little ones ages 3 to 5 and their adult companions use clues to discover which animals have been out and about this season. Green Mountain Audubon Center, Huntington, 10–11 a.m. $8–10 per adult/child pair; $4 per additional child; preregister. Info, 434-3068.

YOUTH MEDIA LAB See WED.09, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

music

SONG CIRCLE: COMMUNITY SING-ALONG WITH RICH & LAURA ATKINSON This experienced pair of musical leaders accompanies participants' voices with a variety of instruments. No experience necessary. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 6:45 p.m. Free. Info, 426-3581.

VERMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA FARMERS NIGHT CONCERT Jaime Laredo conducts this annual performance, which features selections from Bach, Tchaikovsky and an original composition by high school senior Justin Gates. Vermont Statehouse, Montpelier, 7:30 p.m. Free; first come, first seated. Info, 985-2507.

seminars

BEGINNER COMPUTER CLASS See WED.09, 6:30 p.m.

CREATING A FINANCIAL FUTURE SERIES See WED.09, 6–8 p.m.

sport

GREEN MOUNTAIN TABLE TENNIS CLUB See WED.09, 7–10 p.m.

TRAPP NORDIC CUP 2012-13 See WED.09, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

talks

AMY SCHRAM The community outreach specialist from the Better Business Bureau of Marlborough, Mass., presents ways to avoid identity theft. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

MARK STOLER In the first of a two-part series on the region, the UVM professor presents "The Road to Iraq: Origins and Evolution of U.S. Interests in the Middle East." Burlington City Hall Auditorium, Burlington, 7–8:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 863-2345, ext. 8.

MICHAEL PELLETIER IBM's lead advisory mechanical engineer discusses its new free cooling system and related projects at the onsite chapter meeting. IBM, Essex Junction, 5:30–8:15 p.m. $25–35. Info, 735-5359.

NANCY SOMERS The physical fitness expert presents the latest research on brain health and relationships in "Creating the Life You Want to Live." Milton Public Library, 6:30 p.m. Free.

STEVE CONLON The founder of adventure travel company Above the Clouds discusses nearly 20 years of trekking in the southern Andes in "Patagonia." Carpenter Carse Library, Hinesburg, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 482-2878.

theater

OLIVER! INFORMATIONAL MEETING Meet Lyric Theatre Company members and learn about their upcoming April musical, based on Charles Dickens' classic story *Oliver Twist*. South Burlington High School, 7:8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 658-1484.

words

BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES: LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL OF HIS BIRTH John Turner leads a conversation about David Herbert Donald's *Lincoln*. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 6:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 878-4918. ⑦

classes

THE FOLLOWING CLASS LISTINGS ARE PAID ADVERTISEMENTS. ANNOUNCE YOUR CLASS FOR AS LITTLE AS **$13.75/WEEK** (INCLUDES SIX PHOTOS AND UNLIMITED DESCRIPTION ONLINE). SUBMIT YOUR CLASS AD AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/POSTCLASS**.

art

ACCESS ART CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL. 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online at cvuweb cvuhs.org/access. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from exit 12, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg. Info: 482-7194. Watercolor w/ Ginny Joyner: drawing, zentangle (3 choices), colored pencil, calligraphy, Culinary arts: One-night, hands-on classes where you eat well! Thai vegetarian, Vietnamese, Pan Asian, dim sum, Greek coastal, Turkish, Ethiopian, Indian, chocolate roses & espresso, summer salads, risotto, pasta bene, gelato & sorbet, fresh berry pie, decorated Valentine cookies, gefilte fish & kugel — yum! Senior discounts.

burlington city arts

BCA
BURLINGTONCITYARTS

Call 865-7166 for info or register online at burlingtoncityarts.org. Teacher bios are also available online.

CLAY: INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED WHEEL. Weekly on Thu., Jan. 31–Mar. 28, 9:30 a.m.–noon. No class Feb. 14. Cost: $252/BCA members, $280/non-members. Clay sold separately at $20/25 lb. bag. Glazes & firings incl. Location: BCA Clay Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. Local pottery artist Jeremy Ayers will help you refine your wheelwork in this morning class for intermediate and advanced potters. Learn individual tips and techniques for advancement on the wheel. Demonstrations and instruction will cover intermediate throwing, trimming, decorative and glazing methods. Students should be proficient in centering and throwing. Over 30 hours per week of open studio time included.

CLAY: WHEEL THROWING. Weekly on Thur., Jan. 31–Mar. 28, 6–8:30 p.m. No class 2/14. Cost: $210/BCA members, $240/non-members. Clay sold separately at $20/25 lb. bag. Glazes and firings incl. Location: BCA Clay Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. This eight-week class is an introduction to clay pottery and the ceramics studio. Learn basic throwing and forming techniques, while creating functional pieces such as mugs, vases and bowls. Learn various fin shing techniques using the studio's house slips and glazes. No previous experience needed! Class includes over 30 hours per week of open studio time to practice. Instructor: Chris Vaughn.

DESIGN: ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR CS6. Feb. 5–Mar. 12, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Weekly on Tue. Cost: $184.50/BCA members, $205/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, Digital Media Lab, Burlington. Learn the basics of Adobe Illustrator, a program used to create interesting graphics and more. Learn how to lay out and design posters and other single page documents. Explore a variety of software techniques and create projects suited to your own interests. This class is suited for beginners who are interested in furthering their design software skills.

DESIGN: SELF PUBLISHED BOOKS. Feb. 7–Mar. 7, 6–9 p.m. Weekly on Thu. Cost: $202.50/BCA members, $225/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, Digital Media Lab, Burlington. Learn how to create and publish your own artist books using Adobe Creative Suite and online publishing tools such as Blurb and Issuu. Basic layout and design principles, color management and software techniques utilizing InDesign, Photoshop and Bridge will be covered. Students will end the session with a beautiful book layout, ready to publish. Bring high resolution files to the first class.

DRAWING. Weekly on Wed., Jan. 30–Mar. 27, 5:30–8:30 p.m. No class Feb. 27. Cost: $178/BCA members, $195/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington. Learn a variety of drawing techniques, including basic perspective, compositional layout and use of dramatic light and shadow. Students will work with a variety of media including pencil, pen and ink, ink wash, charcoal, conte crayon and colored pencil. Comics and illustrations may be incorporated based on student interest. Instructor: Marc Nadel.

DRAWING: FASHION. Weekly on Thu., Jan. 31–Mar. 14, 6:30–9 p.m. No class Feb. 14. Cost: $178/BCA Members, $195/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington. Learn the basics of fashion drawing! Students will draw and paint using gouache, watercolor and more and will be encouraged to render fabrics, illustrate their own designs and experiment. Mixed-level class: open to both beginners and advanced students; some prior drawing experience is helpful. Class will include figure drawing with a live fashion model. Instructor: Jacquelyn Heloise Liebman.

PAINTING: OIL. Weekly on Tue., Jan. 29–Apr. 2, 6:30–9 p.m. No class Feb. 28 or Mar. 5. Cost: $225/BCA members, $250/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington. Learn how to paint with nontoxic, water soluble oils. With an emphasis on studio work, this class will consist of fun exercises. Discover a variety of painting techniques and learn how to apply composition, linear aspects, form and color theory to your work. BCA provides glass palettes, easels, paint rags, trays and drying racks. Instructor: Linda Jones.

PHOTO: INTRO FILM/DIGITAL SLR. Feb. 6–Mar. 13, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Weekly on Wed. Cost: $144/BCA members, $160/non-members. Location: BCA Center, Digital Media Lab, Burlington. Explore the basic workings of the manual 35mm film or digital SLR camera to learn how to take the photographs you envision. Demystify f-stops, shutter speeds and exposure, and learn the basics of composition, lens choices and film types/sensitivity. Bring an empty manual 35mm film or digital SLR camera and it's owner's manual to class.

PHOTO: PORTRAIT. Weekly on Mon., Feb. 11–Mar. 11, 6–9 p.m. No class Feb. 18. Cost: $157.50/BCA members, $175/nonmembers. Location: BCA Center, Digital Media Lab, Burlington. Prerequisite: Intro to SLR Camera or equivalent experience. Improve your portrait-taking skills in this hands-on class. Camera techniques, composition, the use of studio and natural light, working with a model and more will be covered. Bring your camera and memory card to the first class. Instructor: Dan Lovell.

PRINT: BEGINNING ETCHING. Jan. 30–Mar. 20, 6–9:30 p.m. Weekly on Wed. Cost: $198/BCA members, $220/nonmembers. Location: BCA Print Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. Torrey Valyou, local silkscreen legend and owner of New Duds, will show you how to design and print T-shirts, posters, fine art and more! Students will learn a variety of techniques for transferring and printing images using hand-drawn, photograph or borrowed imagery. Cost includes over 25 hours per week of open studio hours. No experience necessary! Some materials are included.

PRINT: SILKSCREEN CLOTHING DESIGN. Jan. 28–Mar. 18, 6:30–9:30 p.m. Weekly on Mon. Cost: $207/BCA members, $230/non-members. Location: BCA Print Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington. Fashion design meets print-making in this class! Flash-on designer and silkscreen expert Amy Wild will show you how to print on jackets, leggings, skirts, pants and of course T-shirts. Learn a variety of techniques for transferring and printing images using hand-drawn, photographic or borrowed imagery. Cost includes over 25 hours per week of open studio hours. No experience necessary! Some materials included. Instructor: Amy Wild.

business

WOMEN'S SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM. Every Thu., 5:30–9 p.m. Every other Sun., noon–6 p.m. Cost: $2,220/15-wk. class, 120 classroom hours. An application & interview req. to take the course. VSAC nondegree grant eligible. Location: Mercy Connections Offices, 255 South Champlain Street, Burlington. Info: Women's Small Business Program, Mercy Connections, Gwen Pokalo, 846-7338, gpokalo@mercyconnections.org, wsbp.org. Become fluent in the language of business and write a bank-ready business plan! This 15-week mini-MBA empowers you to get the marketing, business ownership and financials information you need to start or expand your business, all in an interactive, supportive environment. You will have unbridled access to experts, resources and the 25-year WSBP alumni network to do business on your own terms, not on your own.

climbing

WOMEN'S/COED CLIMBING CLINICS. Jan. 15–Feb. 21, 6–9 p.m., Tue. & Thu. Cost: $175/6 classes, rental gear & additional visits. Location: Petra Cliffs Climbing Center, 105 Briggs St., Burlington. Info: Petra Cliffs Climbing Center, 857-3872, info@petracliffs.com, petracliffs.com. Learn to climb or improve your skills in 5 winter/intro levels: cover basic climbing skills, belaying, balance, footwork and route reading. Intermediate levels progress technique, endurance and strength. Clinics are a great way to learn with AMGA CWI instructors and meet other climbers! Coed Clinics meet Tue., Women's Clinics meet Thu.

computers

ACCESS COMPUTER CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL. 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online at cvuweb cvuhs.org/access. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from exit 12, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg. Info: 482-7194. Basic Computer Skills, iPods, iPads & iPhones, Best of Internet Browsing, File Management, Google Smarts for Parents & Kids, Twitter Essentials, Google Sketchup, PowerPoint, Publisher, MS Word Basics, MS Excel Basics, Excel Up — The Next Steps, Excel Data Analysis, InDesign, Build Web Site Basics, Business Web Site on a Shoestring, Dreamweaver Web Essentials, personalized lessons. Low cost, hands-on, excellent instructors, limited class size guaranteed. Materials included with a few exceptions. Senior discounts.

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR ADULTS. Classes start Jan. 21. Location: Adult Computer Learning Center, lower level of the Pines Apartments on Aspen Drive, South Burlington. Info: 864-1502, information@seniored.org. Make a New Year's resolution to improve your computer skills. SeniorEd offers fun courses for the very beginner and the experienced user and has workshops in Word processing, email, photos and Facebook. We will also offer a new look at Windows 8. Visit seniored.org for descriptions, schedule and registration.

craft

ACCESS CRAFT CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL. 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online at cvuweb cvuhs.org/access. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from exit 12, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg. Info: 482-7194. Pottery (5 choices), woodworking, basic machining, welding, wood carving, basket weaving, rug hooking, wool dyeing, 3 bag sewing, pillows, kids sewing, needle felting (4 choices), card making, quilting



wooden bowl turning, cake decorating (3 choices), knitting (8 choices), hand tool workshop for kids. Sen or discounts

dance

ADULT BALLET: Jan. 10–Feb. 28 10–11 a.m. Cost: $96/8-wk class. Location: South End Studio 696 Pine Street, Burlington. Info: 540-0044, southendstudiovt.com. Improve your coordination, posture and overall grace through the traditional dance form of classical ballet. Each class will include barre exercises, short step combinations, turns, jumps and port de bras (arm movements). You will feel comfortable in a relaxed atmosphere as you learn or solidify the beginnings of ballet technique.

BALLROOM AT DARKROOM GALLERY: Jan. 14–Feb. 18 7:30–9 p.m., Weekly on Mon. Cost: $200/per couple for 6 wks of 1.5-hr classes. Location: Darkroom Gallery, 12 Main Street, Essex Junction. Info: Open Space Ballroom Dance Lessons, Bonnie Daffillo, 777-3686, info@darkroomgallery.com, http://bestdanceinstruction.com. Darkroom Gallery of Essex is opening its doors to dancing! Monday nights starting mid-January. Open Space Ballroom is offering a 6 week long dance class for couples. Learn salsa, swing, waltz and foxtrot. 1.5 hour classes in the gallery surrounded by art with a superb sound system! Sign up today!

BEGINNER WEST AFRICAN DANCE: 6:30–8 p.m., Weekly on Thur. Cost: $13. Location: South End Studio 696 Pine Street, Burlington. Info: 540-0044, southendstudiovt.com. Try out a beginner-oriented African dance class with Sidiki Sylla, master artist and director of Jeh Kulu. Classes will be geared to those with little or no dance experience. Please bring comfortable clothing, bare feet or studio-friendly sneakers, water bottle and an open heart; you just may surprise yourself!

DANCE STUDIO SALSALINA: Location: 266 Pine St., Burlington. Info: Victoria, 598-1077, info@salsalina.com. Salsa classes, nightclub-style on one and on two, group and private, four levels. Beginner walk-in classes: Wednesdays @ p.m. $13/person for one-hour class. No dance experience, partner or prerequisite ration required, just the desire to have fun! Drop in any time and prepare for an enjoyable workout!

DSANTOS VT SALSA: Mon evenings, beginner class 7–8 p.m., Intermediate @ 8:15–9:15 p.m. Cost: $10/1 hr class. Location: Movement Studio, 180 Flynn Ave., Burlington. Info: Tyler Crandall, 598-9204, crandall.tyler@hotmail.com, dsantosvt.com. Experience the fun and excitement of Burlington's eclectic dance community by learning salsa. Trained by world famous dancer Manuel Dos Santos, we teach you how to dance to the music and how to have a great time on the dance floor! There is no better time to start than now!

LEARN TO DANCE W/ A PARTNER! Cost: $50/4-wk. class. Location: Champlain Club, 20 Crowley St., Burlington. Lessons also avail. in St. Albans. Info: First Step Dance, 598-6757, kevin@firststepdance.com, FirstStepDance.com. Come alone or come with friends but come out and learn to dance! Beginning classes repeat each month but intermediate classes vary from month to month. As with all of our programs, everyone is encouraged to attend, and no partner is necessary.

dowsing

GEOMANCY: Jan. 12, 9 a.m.–noon. Cost: $50/person incl. a pair of dowsing rods & resource list. Location: Sfowe area, Vermont. Info: Rachel, 244-7909, sound health@yahoo.com. Dowsing is a practical skill that can improve your intuition, put you in touch with your inner guide and help you improve your health. Learn some of the basic principles of geomancy and dowsing in this empowering, experiential workshop. Led by Rachel Chevalier, dowser, teacher and energy healer.

drumming

TAIKO DJEMBE CONGAS & BATA! Location: Burlington Taiko Space, 208 Flynn Ave., suite 3-G, Burlington. Info: Stuart Rafon, 999-4255, spafonSS@gmail.com. Free Taiko workshop Jan. 8, 5:30–7 p.m., kids, 4:30 p.m. Tue. Taiko adult classes begin Jan. 15, 5:30–6:20 p.m. $72/6 wks. Kids classes meet 4:30–5:20 p.m. $60/6 wks. Conga & Djembe classes start Jan. 11, 5 p.m. & 6 p.m. $15/class. Montpelier Conga class starts Jan. 3, 9:30–10:30 a.m. $60/4 wks. Djembe classes start Jan. 3, 7–8:30 p.m. $72/4 wks.

education

CONTINUING EDUCATION
Spring semester begins week of Mon., Feb. 11. Location: Burlington Technical Center, Burlington High School, 52 Institute Road, Burlington. Info: 864-8436, cel.bsdvt.org. Why not join us? Be a night owl! Continuing education is for everyone. Enroll in an evening course for the spring 2013 semester. Courses are offered in many areas including technical courses, artistic expression, computers, personal growth. Burlington senior citizens can attend for free!

empowerment

ACCESS CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL. 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online at cvuweb.cvuhs.org/access. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from exit 12, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg. Info: 482-7194. Beekeeping, History of the World Through Fiber/Food, The Donner Party Story, Home Exchange, Solar Bus Tour, Energy Solutions, Bridge, Writing Mystery & Romance, Poetry Workshops, Grief Etiquette, EFT, Managing Cholesterol Naturally, Suburban Homesteading, VMAP, Motorcycle Awareness, Pruning Trees, Career Plan Plus, Vermont Architecture, Fly Fishing, Sen or discounts.

LIFE IS A SPIRITUAL TREASURE HUNT: Jan. 12, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Cost: $60. Location: 55 Clover Lane, Waterbury. Info: Sue, 244-7909. Learn to read the signs and messages that surround us all the time that can provide us with the information that can help us move forward in positive ways. Led by Susan Ackerman, teacher, author, counselor and astrologer.

feldenkrais

AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT: Info: 735-3770. Weekly Awareness Through Movement classes in different locations. Evolution (Burlington), Ten Stones (Charlotte), 2 Wolves Center (Vergennes). No previous Feldenkrais experience necessary. For complete schedule and detailed information about the Method, please visit vetmont/feldenkrais.com.

fishing

FLY TYING COURSE. 6-wk. course starting Sat. Jan. 12 or Sun. Jan. 13, 2–4 p.m. Cost: $120/6-wk. course. Location: Schirmer's Fly Shop, 34 Mills Ave., South Burlington. Info: 863-6105, schirmersflyshop@gmail.com, schirmersflyshop.com. Schirmer's Fly Shop is offering a 6-week fly tying course for beginners who would like to become strong intermediate tyers. Schirmer's supplies all needed tying materials. Students need their own tools. Tools are available at the shop. Please call or email for more information and to sign up.

fitness

BARSCULPT: Dec. classes: Sun. 10, 10:30–11:30. Mon. 17 @ 6:30–7:30 p.m., Tue. 18 & 30, 7:30 a.m.–4:30, 5:30 p.m. Fri. 21, 5:30–6:30 p.m., Sun. 23, 10:30–11:30 a.m., Wed. 26 & 30, 7:30 p.m., Thu. 27, 4:30–5:30 p.m., Fri. 28, 5:30–6:30 p.m. Cost: $15/Dec. 17-Jan. 1 classes are $9/10 donation based. 1st class is always free during this period. Location: BarSculpt at Core Studio, 206 Flynn Ave., Unit 3K, Burlington. Info: BarSculpt (Burlington Barre), Liz Sheridan, 908-672-8219, liz@burlingtonbarre.com, burlingtonbarre.com. BarSculpt was inspired by the Lotte Berk Method. These classes bring together the disciplines of Pilates, yoga and sports conditioning. BarSculpt is ideal and challenging for all fitness and age levels. BarSculpt integrates the fat burning format of interval training, the muscle shaping technique of isometrics and the elongating aspects of dance and ballet conditioning. This class will lift your seat, flatten your abs and tone your arms. Other key benefits a student can receive are increased metabolic rate, increased bone density, non-impact workout, quick results, improved posture and flexibility.

gardening

MASTER GARDENER 2013 COURSE: Feb. 5–Apr. 30, 6:15–9 p.m., Weekly on Tue. Cost: $385/person incl. sustainable-gardening book. Late fee after Jan. 18. Noncredit course. Location: Bennington Brattleboro, Johnson, Lyndon, Montpelier, Middlebury, Newport, Randolph Ctr., Rutland, Springfield, St. Albans, White River Jct., Williston. Info: 656-9562, master.gardener@uvm.edu, uvm.edu/master_gardener. Learn the keys to a healthy and sustainable home landscape as University of Vermont faculty and experts focus on gardening in Vermont. This noncredit course covers a wide variety of horticultural topics: fruit and vegetable production, flower gardening, botany basics, plant pests, soil fertility, disease management, healthy lawns, invasive plants, control, introduction to home landscaping and more!

STONE WALL WORKSHOP: All workshops Sat. 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Jan. through Mar. Cost: $100/1 day workshop. Location: Red Wagon Plants, 2406 Shelburne Falls Road, Hinesburg. Info: Queen City Soil & Stone, Charley MacMartin, MacMartin_318-2411.mac-martin@lgc.org, queencitysoilandstone.com. Our introductory workshops for homeowners and professionals promote the beauty and integrity of stone. The 1-day workshop covers the basic techniques for creating dry-laid walls using stone native to Vermont. Workshops are held in warm greenhouses in Hinesburg. Space is limited. Gift certificates available.

healing arts

COME TO YOUR SENSES!
Sat. Jan. 26, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Part 2: Sat., Feb. 2, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Cost: Love offering (you determine your payment). Location: Middlebury Ambulance Association Meeting Room, 55 Collins Drive, Middlebury. Info: Barbara Clearbridge, 324-9149, clearbridge@FeelingMuchBetter.org, FeelingMuchBetter.org. Develop your senses and your innate intuitive abilities. Open your inner eyes, inner ears, inner knowing



Practice exercises to learn to perceive energy fields, look inside the physical body and go outside space and time. It's easier than you think! Includes remote viewing in a health care context.

health

THE NEW LEAF RESOLUTION!
Jan. 21–Apr. 1, 7–8:45 p.m. Cost: $180/12 consecutive Mon. nights. Location: Fairfax Associates in Medicine, 1199 Main St., Fairfax. Info: Pondermountain, John Schraven, 310-1363, jas@surfglobal.net, pondermountain.com. In this unique 12 week program we will teach you that the ability to sustain weight loss is about what is going on in your head as well as what goes in your mouth. Led by Audrey von Lipel, MD, this is a multifaceted approach to weight loss using meditation, exercise and group support.

herbs

MEDICINE IN THE MICROCOSMOS. February 18 & 17 & March 2 & 3, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., 28 hours total. Cost: $280. $30 deposit required. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism, 252 Main Street, Montpelier. Info: Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism, 224-7100, info@vtherbcenter.org, vtherbcenter.org. Discover the many different levels at which the environment interfaces with human beings. Examine basic chemical structures, study the fundamentals of cell biology and explore solubility, extraction and absorption to gain a rich and nuanced understanding of the actions of what we put into our bodies. Taught by Gu do Masé.

SHORT COURSES FOR SELF CARE: Registration now open for all courses. Medicine in the Microcosmos: 9 a.m.–5 p.m. on Feb. 16 & 17 & Mar. 2 and 3. Roots of Healing, Mon. 4:30–6:30 p.m. Mar. 18–May 20. Healing Presence, Mon. 6–8 p.m. Jun. 3, Jul. 1. Kitchen Medicine, Tue. 5:30–8:30 p.m. Mar. 12 & 26, Apr. 23 & 30, Jun. 25, Jul. 9 & 23, Aug. 20, Sep. 10, Oct. 8 & 22 & Nov. 12. Wilderness First Responder, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Apr. 6–14. Herbs From the Ground Up, Mon. 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Apr. 29–Oct. 14. Traditional Body Therapies, Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Oct. 26, Nov. 9 & 23 & Dec. 7. Whole Human Wellness, Mon. 4:30–7:30 p.m. Jul. 18–Dec. 9. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism, 252 Main Street, Montpelier. Info: Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism, 224-7100, info@vtherbcenter.org, vtherbcenter.org. The Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism is pleased to introduce the community health worker project, a new series of short courses designed to help people take care of themselves and their friends and families using safe, natural and traditional approaches. Visit our website under community classes for details and costs.

WISDOM OF THE HERBS SCHOOL. Open House Sat., Jan. 26, 1:3 p.m. at Tulsi Tea Room, 34 Elm St., Montpelier.

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classes

THE FOLLOWING CLASS LISTINGS ARE PAID ADVERTISEMENTS. ANNOUNCE YOUR CLASS FOR AS LITTLE AS **$13.75/WEEK** (INCLUDES SIX PHOTOS AND UNLIMITED DESCRIPTION ONLINE). SUBMIT YOUR CLASS AD AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/POSTCLASS**.

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Now accepting applications for Wisdom Eight-Month Certification Program. Apr 20, 21, May 18-19, Jun. 15-16, Jul. 13-14, Aug. 10-11, Sep. 7-8, Oct. 5-6 & Nov. 2-3, 2013. Tuition $1750, nonrefundable deposit $250, payment plan $187.50/mo. Applications for Wild Edibles spring term. Apr. 28, May 28, Jun. 23, 2013. Tuition $300. VSAC nondegree grants avail. Location: Wisdom of the Herbs School, Woodbury. Info: 456-8122, annie@wisdomoftheherbsschool.com, wisdomoftheherbsschool.com. Earth skills for changing times. Experiential programs embracing local wild edible and medicinal plants, food as first medicine, sustainable living skills, and the inner journey. Annie McCleary, director and George List, naturalist.

jewelry

BEGINNER METAL. Jan. 16-Mar. 6, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $255/course; member discount available. Location: Shelburne Craft School, 64 Harbor Road, Shelburne. Info: Sage, 985-3648, info@theshelburnecraftschool.org, theshelburnecraftschool.org. Focus on jewelry design, small sculpture or functional art. Each student will complete a series of practice pieces before designing and creating a wearable finished piece out of sterling silver. Every week there will be several demonstrations including sawing, drilling, piercing, annealing, texturing, jump rings, forming and soldering techniques.

kids

FREE DANCE CLASSES! Jan. 16-Mar. 6, 10-10:45 a.m., Annually. Location: St. Michael's College, Ross Sports Building, Tarrant Dance Studio, Colchester. Info: SMC, Annette Urbschat, 660-9327, sundancestudiovt@gmail.com. Creative movement for children 4 and 5 years old. This class is taught by Annette Urbschat as part of an undergraduate teaching course at SMC. Children will explore seasonal movement themes and dance favorite stories observed by SMC students who will later teach short segments of the class under supervision.

language

ALLONS Y ET BONNE ANNEE! FRENCH CLASSES FOR PRESCHOOLERS, YOUTH & ADULTS. Preschool FRART! Jan. 11-Feb. 15, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Youth Afterschool FRART! Jan. 16-Feb. 20, 3:45-5:15 p.m. Adult Adv. Beg.: Jan. 15-Mar. 19, 6:45-8:15 p.m. Adult Intermediate: Jan. 15-Mar. 19, 5-6:30 p.m., Location: winspand Studio, 4A Howard St., 3rd floor, Burlington. Info: 233-7676, maggiestandley@yahoo.com, wingspanpaint-ngstudio.com/classes. Immerse yourself in a beautiful, supportive and fun environment learning French and opening new doors. New Sessions begin January. Maggie Standley, fluent speaker and experienced instructor, has lived in Paris and West Africa. Weaving together cultural knowledge, multiple learning modalities and familiarity w/ language pitfalls, these classes are "vraiment chouettes!"

ACCESS LANGUAGE CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL. 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online at cvuweb.cvuhs.org/access. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from exit 12, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg. Info: 482-7194. French, 3 levels beginning Spanish, 2 levels Intermediate Spanish, 3 levels immersion Spanish, Italian for Travelers, 2 levels beginning Mandarin, 2 levels, German, 2 levels. Low cost, hands on, excellent instructors, limited class size guaranteed. Materials included with a few exceptions. Senior discounts.

JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES. Level 1 classes Tue. beginning Jan. 22. Level 2 classes Thu. beginning Jan. 24 & continuing for 10 wks. 7-8:30 p.m. weekly ending wk. of Mar. 28-28. Cost $195/10 1.5-hr. classes. Location: St. Michael's College, 1 Winooski Place, Colchester. Info: Japan-America Society of Vermont, Linda Sukop, 825-8335, linda.sukop@gmail.com, jasv.org. The Japan America Society of Vermont is pleased to offer Japanese language classes. The purpose of these classes is improving awareness and understanding of Japanese culture, history and language. The classes are open to the general public and students alike.

LEARN FRENCH THIS SPRING!. Spring term classes meet weekly for 11 wks., from 6:30-8 p.m. Cost: $245/11 wk. class. Location: Alliance Francaise of the Lake Champlain Region, 302-304 Dupont Bldg. (Fort Ethan Allen), 123 Ethan Allen Ave., Colchester. Info: Alliance Francaise of the Lake Champlain Region, Micheline Tremblay, 497-0420, michelineatremblay@gmail.com, aflcr.org/classes.shtml. Registration now open for the spring schedule of French classes at the Alliance Francaise of the Lake Champlain Region in Colchester. Classes offered at six levels, evenings for adults beginning the week of March 4 for 11 weeks through May 23. Full details and easy registration on website: aflcr.org/classes.shtml.

SPANISH CLASSES STARTING NOW. Beginning in January for 10 weeks. Cost: $175/10 1-hr. classes. Location: Spanish in Waterbury Center, Waterbury Ctr. Info: Spanish in Waterbury Center, 585-1025, spanish-paravos@gmail.com, spanish-waterburycenter.com. Join us for Spanish classes this winter. Our sixth year. Learn from a native speaker via small classes, individual instruction or student tutoring. You'll always be participating and speaking. Lesson packages for travelers. Specializing in lessons for young children; they love it! See our website or contact us for details.

legal

LIVING WITH INTEGRITY. Jan. 30-Mar. 6, 7-8:30 p.m., Every 6 wks. on Wed. Cost: $65/series, text incl. Location: Chabad of Vermont, 57 South Williams Street, Burlington. Info: Chabad of Vermont, 658-5770, chabad@chabadvt.org, chabadvt.org. With real life scenarios. Living with integrity challenges you to voice your opinion while providing practical Talmudic wisdom to help you navigate through life's inevitable ethical challenges. This course will also discuss common ethical dilemmas attorneys routinely face in the legal profession. Approved for 1.5 general credits and 7.5 ethics credits for CLE.

martial arts

AIKIDO. Adult introductory classes begin on Tue., Feb. 5 at 5:30 p.m. Location: Aikido of Champlain Valley, 257 Pine St. (across from Conant Metal & Light). Burlington. Info: 951-8900, burlingtonaikido.org. This Japanese martial art is a great method to get in shape and relieve stress. Classes for adults, teens and children. We also offer morning classes for new students. Study with Benjamin Pincus-Sense, 5th degree black belt and Vermont's only fully certified Aikido teacher. Visitors are always welcome.

AIKIDO CLASSES. Location: Vermont Aikido, 274 N. Winooski Ave. (2nd floor), Burlington. Info: Vermont Aikido, 862-9785, vermontaikido.org. Aikido trains body and spirit together, promoting physical flexibility and strong center within flowing movement, martial sensibility with compassionate presence, respect for others and confidence in oneself. Vermont Aikido invites you to explore this graceful martial art in a safe, supportive environment.

COMBAT FITNESS MARTIAL ARTS. Location: Combat Fitness Martial Arts Academy, 276 E. Allen Street #8, Winooski. Info: Combat Fitness LLP, Vincent Guy, 343-3129, vtcguy@yahoo.com, combatfitnessmma.com. Combat Fitness Martial Arts Academy (+F9 Exit 15 (Hills de Park)) offers classes six days a week in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Muay Thai Kickboxing, Western Boxing, MMA Fitness and training. The best value in VT with dedicated caring instructors. Perfect for people of all ages and skill levels.

VERMONT BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU. Mon.-Fri., 6-9 p.m., & Sat., 10 a.m. 1st class is free. Location: Vermont Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, 55 Leroy Rd., Williston. Info: 660-4072, Julie@bjjusa.com, vermontbjj.com. Classes for men, women and children. Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu enhances strength, flexibility, balance, coordination and cardio-respiratory fitness. Brazilian Jiu Jitsu training builds and helps to instill courage and self-confidence. We offer a legitimate Brazilian Jiu Jitsu martial arts program in a friendly, safe and positive environment. Accepting no imitations. Learn from one of the world's best, Julie Foca Fernandez, CBJJ and IBJJF certified 6th Degree Black Belt, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu instructor under Carlson Gracie Sr., teaching in Vermont, born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. A 5-time Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu National Featherweight Champion and 3-time Rio de Janeiro State Champion, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



meditation

INTRODUCTION TO ZEN. Sat., Jan. 26, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Cost: $30/half-day workshop, limited-time price. Location: Vermont Zen Center, 480 Thomas Rd., Shelburne. Info: Vermont Zen Center, 985-9748, ecross@crosscontext.net, vermontzen.org. This workshop is conducted by an ordained Zen Buddhist teacher and focuses on the theory and meditation practices of Zen Buddhism. Preregistration required. Call for more info or register online.

LEARN TO MEDITATE. Meditation instruction avail.

Sun. mornings 9 a.m.-noon or by appt. Meditation sessions on Tue. & Thu., noon-1 p.m. and Mon., Thu., 6-7 p.m. The Shambhala Cafe meets the 1st Sat. of ea. mo. for meditation & discussions, 9 a.m.-noon. An Open House occurs every 3rd Fri. evening of ea. mo., 7-9 p.m., which incl. an intro. to the center, a short dharma talk & socializing. Location: Burlington Shambhala Center, 187 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Info: 658-6795, burlingtonshambhala.org. Through the practice of sitting still and following your breath as it goes out and dissolves, you are connecting with your heart. By simply letting yourself be, as you are, you develop genuine sympathy toward yourself. The Burlington Shambhala Center offers meditation as a path to discovering gentleness and wisdom.

movement

FREE YOGA: JAW, NECK & SHOULDERS. Jan. 17-Feb. 21, 9:30-10:30 a.m., weekly on Thu. Cost: $60/6-wk. series. Location: Common House Ten Stones Community, Charlotte. Info: 735-3770. This 6-week class will deliver an engaging and gentle series of Awareness Through Movement lessons designed to reduce muscular tension and promote relaxation and ease throughout the jaw, neck and shoulders. People who suffer from TMJ, neck discomfort, headaches and shoulder pain will find these classes particularly to their benefit. For details, please visit vermontfeldenkrais.com.

nature

ORIGINS. Feb. 2-Oct. 12. Cost: $3,100/For a 9-month program. Location: ROOTS School, 20 Blachly Rd., Marshfield. Info: ROOTS School, Sarah Corrigan, 456-1253, info@RootsVT.com, RootsVT.com. Tools are made to be used. Limits are made to be pushed. This program, beginning in February, meets over nine months to study, make and use the tools of a land-based culture. This ends with a weeklong trip living in the woods, putting our tools to the test.

photography

ACCESS CAMERA CLASSES IN MINES, RUBG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL. 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online at cvuweb.cvuhs.org/access. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from exit 12, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg. Info: 482-7194. Photoshop Basics, Digital Camera Buttons/Menus, Share Photos, Aperture, Info, Shutter Speed Skills, Digital Spectrum, Org. Camera SLR Topics, Picasso, Next Layers of Photoshop, Advanced Digital Photography, Blending/Filters. Senior discounts.

INTRO TO NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY. Jan. 19, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Cost: $145/8-hr. class. Location: Green Mountain Photographic Workshops TBA, Central Vermont. Info: Green Mountain Photographic Workshops, Kurt Budliger, 223-4022, info@kurtbudligerphotography.com, greenmtnphotoworkshops.com. Ever wonder how professional photographers create those stunning images you see in magazines, calendars and books? Join professional photographer Kurt Budliger as he sheds light on the secrets. Beyond lots of inspiring imagery, this workshop will give participants practical, take-home skills to help master exposure/metering, composition and working with light.

psychology

WINTER BLUES & SAD TREATMENT. Wed., 6-6:45 p.m., Jan. 9-Mar. 6 or Sat., 10 noon-Jan. 12-Mar. 5. Cost: $240/12-hr., 8-wk. class. Location: Exquisite Mind Psychotherapy and Meditation Studio, 66 King Street, Suite 101, Burlington. Info: Exquisite Mind, Anne Kezak, 860-8043, exquisitemind@me.com, exquisitemind.com. Cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) is an effective treatment for winter blues and SAD. Combined with mindfulness, CBT skills are portable — you can carry them for the rest of your life and you don't need to sit in front of an expensive light box everyday.

spirituality

LIFE PURPOSE JOURNEY GROUP. Feb. 5-Mar. 5, 5-6:30 p.m., Weekly on Tue. Cost: $225/4 group evenings plus 2 private sessions. Location: Spirit Dancer Books, 122 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Info: HandTales, Janet Savage, 279-6554, janet@handtales.com, handtales.com. Four evenings plus. It's all in your hands! Here we the key to open the doorway to your life purpose. Come away with a greater sense of YOU, clarity about what is getting in the way and the practical tools to live the life you are meant to live every day.

tai chi

HWA YU TAI CHI/MONTPELIER. Jan. 7-Apr. 29, 5:15-6 p.m., Weekly on Mon. Cost: $150/15-week semester. Location: Montpelier Shambhala Center, 64 Main St., 3rd floor, Montpelier. Info: Ellie Hayes, 456-1983, grhayes1956@comcast.net. Hwa Yu Tai Chi winter spring semester runs 15 weeks. Beginners welcome. Come in from the cold, breathe easy, get grounded, let your energy flow. Enjoy the many benefits of Tai Chi. Fully commit to the path of least resistance, discover renewed calm and coordination.

SNAKE-STYLE TAI CHI CHUAN. Beginner classes Sat. mornings & Wed. evenings. Call to view a class. Location: Bao Tak Fai Tai Chi Institute, 100 Church St., Burlington. Info: 864-7302, ipaichi.org. The Yang Snake Style is a dynamic tai chi method that mobilizes the spine while stretching and strengthening the core body muscles. Practicing this ancient martial art increases strength, flexibility, vitality, peace of mind and martial skill.

YANG STYLE TAI CHI. Wed., 5:30 p.m., Sat., 8:30 a.m. $16/class. $60/mo. Beginners welcome. New 8-wk. beginners sessions start on Wed., Jan. 9, 5:30 p.m. and Sat., Jan. 19, 8:30 a.m. $125/8 classes. Location: Vermont Tai Chi Academy & Healing Center, 160 Flynn Ave., Burlington. Immediate right turn after railroad tracks. Follow the curve, then turn right & go through the parking lot, passing Vermont Hardware. Turn left at the end of the brick building & you will find a Tai Chi sign on your left. Info: 434-2350. Tai chi is a slow, moving martial art that combines deep breathing and graceful movements to produce the valuable effects of relaxation. Improved concentration. Improved balance and ease in the symptoms of fibromyalgia. 735-5465 or 434-2380.

theater

PSYCHOORAMA MEETS PLAYBACK THEATER: CONNECTIONS & REFLECTIONS. Jan. 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Cost: $100/person. Scholarships avail. Location: JourneyWorks, 11 Kilburn St., Burlington. Info: BEO 6203, jkristelst@hotmail.com, journeyworksvt.com. Celebrations of the Soul and JourneyWorks collaborative training workshop. Jointly led by Jennie Kristel, MA, CET, Playback Theater Trainer, Herb Propper, PhD, TEP.

vermont center for integrative therapy



CIRCLE OF COURAGE. Jan. 16-Apr. 3, 12:15 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $40/session. Inquire about insurance. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St., Suite 201, South Burlington. Info: Amy Poland, 658-6440. Do you struggle with body image and disordered eating? Many women find the experience of an eating disorder an extremely isolating experience. Together we can take steps toward understanding the parts that are attached to our eating disorder, building connections with others and creating a foundation for a compassionate recovery.

DIALECTICAL BEHAVIOR THERAPY. Jan. 10-Feb. 21, 6-7:30 p.m., Weekly on Thu. Cost: $185/6-wk. segment. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St., Suite 204 S., Burlington. Info: Adrienne Slusky, 658-9440. This ongoing Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) group meets on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. This group consists of four six-week segments dedicated to each of the four DBT modules or skill sets: Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, Emotion Regulation and Interpersonal Effectiveness. Advanced registration and brief information session required.

QIGONG FOR ANXIETY, CULTIVATING CALM. Feb. 5-Mar. 26, 9:30-11 a.m., Weekly on Tue. Cost: $160/series. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St., Suite 204, South Burlington. Info: 658-9440. Qigong is a complete wellness program that the Chinese have been using for centuries to strengthen the mind/body connection, reduce stress, promote serenity and improve circulation. In Qigong for Anxiety we will learn how to experience a sense of deep peace within ourselves that we can bring into our lives in order to help us cope with everyday stressors.

TRANSFORMING MENTAL CONFLICT. Feb. 4-Mar. 11, 6-8 p.m., Weekly on Mon. Cost: $200/series. Inquire about insurance. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St., Suite 204, South Burlington. Info: C. Wright Cronin, 658-9440. A workshop utilizing methods from the IFS model of therapy and the Iyengar school of yoga to support participants in a deep investigation of the diverse and sometimes conflicting parts of the self. Each system offers complimentary tools to approach internal conflict through body oriented identification of parts, group processing and healing meditation.

MINDFULNESS FOR TEENS. Feb. 5-Mar. 12, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Weekly on Tue. $20-$120/series. Inquire about insurance. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St., Suite 204, South Burlington. Info: 448-0665, catherine.e.schiller@gmail.com. Mindfulness for teens is a 6 week program in which teens learn mindfulness skills to bring to everyday life experiences. This group will follow a 6 week curriculum which will include opportunities for participants to practice formally and informally in a peer supported environment. Time will be spent exploring ourselves, our world, our emotions and our relationships.

MINDFUL PARENTS. Feb. 5-Mar. 12, 5:45-6:45 p.m., Weekly on Tue. $20-$120/series. Inquire about insurance. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St., Suite 204, South Burlington. Info: 448-0665, catherine.e.schiller@gmail.com. Mindful Parents is a mindfulness-based series dedicated to parents of youth who are currently struggling with mental health issues. Mindfulness strategies will be practiced in a variety of ways for parents to learn how to apply these skills to parenting. Opportunities will be given for parents to also have open discussion and build an internal support network.

YOGA FOR ADDICTION AND ANXIETY. Feb. 6-Mar. 27, 5:45-7:15 p.m., Weekly on Wed. Cost: $120/series. Inquire about insurance. Location: Vermont Center for Integrative Therapy, 364 Dorset St., Suite 204, South Burlington. Info: 658-9440. Within anxiety addictions can be born and feelings of claustrophobia within one's skin arise and grow. This class will begin with a gentle heat, fueling the body with breath based movements then slowing down for long comfortable holds focusing on reducing stress through restful rejuvenation and meditation.

well-being

ACCESS CLASSES IN HINESBURG AT CVU HIGH SCHOOL. 200 offerings for all ages w/ great instructors. Full descriptions online at cvuweb.cvuhs.org/access. Location: CVU High School, 10 min. from exit 12, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg. Info: 482-7194. Simple Therapeutic Massage, Core Strength, Weight Training, Resistance Training for Cyclists, Cardio Resistance Training, Upper Body, Golf Conditioning, Zumba, Zumba Gold, Yoga, Tai Chi, Swing or Ballroom, African Drum, African Dance, Jazzercise, Jazz Guitar, Voice-Overs, Guitar, Ukulele, Sweet Old Time Lullabies, Mindful Meditation, Luscious Lotions, Herbal Facial, Milk Soap, Herbal Summer Beauty Care, and Juggling. Low cost, excellent instructors guaranteed. Materials included.

yoga

EVOLUTION YOGA. $14/class, $130/class card, $5-10/community classes. Location: Evolution Yoga, 20 Kilburn St., Burlington. Info: 864-9642, evolutionvt.com. Evolution Yoga offers a variety of classes in a supportive atmosphere: beginner, advanced kids, baby, pre- post- and prenatal, community classes and workshops. Vinyasa, Kripalu, Core, Breast Cancer Survivor and Alignment classes. Certified teachers, massage and PT too. Join our yoga community and get to know the family you choose.

HOT YOGA BURLINGTON. Get Hot — 2 for 1 offer. Mon., Wed. & Fri., 5-6 p.m., Sat., 10-11 a.m. Cost: $14/1st 2 classes, multi class cards available. Location: North End Studio 6, 294 N. Winooski Ave., Old North End, Burlington. Info: 999-9983, hotyogaburlington.com. Hot Yoga Burlington offers creative vinyasa style yoga featuring practice in the Barkan Method Hot Yoga™ in a 95 degree heated studio accompanied by eclectic music. Try something different!

LAUGHING RIVER YOGA. 7 days/wk., $5-$13/class; 10 class card, $113; monthly unlimited, $130. Location: Laughing River Yoga Chace Mill, suite 128, Burlington. Info: 343-8113, laughingriveryoga.com. Compassionate and skilled instructors offer Kripalu, Jivamukti, Vajra, Vinyasa, Yin, Restorative, Yoga Dance, Yoga Teacher Training and more. Deepen your practice with Sunday morning intensives or one of our beautiful yoga retreats. Get schooled in yoga love and leadership with Coby Kozlowski. January 25-27. All bodies and abilities welcome. ⑦



Forward Thinking

A not-so-serious look at the year to come in Vermont music

BY DAN BOLLES



DAN BOLLES

A new year is not unlike a new pair of shoes. Just out of the box, it is sparkly clean and smells of fresh leather. Or something. But much like new shoes need to be scuffed up and broken in before they feel right, a new year needs to be lived in a little before you can truly get a sense of the mysteries it may have in store.

Now that we're a solid week plus into 2013, it is time once again to gaze into the mirror ball — this is rock and roll, we don't do crystal — and glean what we can about the year to be. While some of these predictions contain a nugget of truth, most are meant to be lighthearted — don't read into them too deeply. After all, in the six-year history of this column, we've yet to get a single prediction right. So, on that note, here's what to expect from local music in 2013:

- Burlington's EDM scene continues to explode. New DJs and producers emerge at a record pace. Local dance clubs are packed nightly as revelers get down and dirty to the genre's hottest new trend, Zoombaton, a hybrid EDM-fitness craze invented by Mushpost founder Nick Conklin.

- With fewer places to play following the closings of Langdon Street Cafe, Lamb Abbey and, most recently, the Black Door, the Montpelier music scene appears to be on life support. That is, until the Golden Dome Musicians' Collective is approved for a business loan and opens a new club, the Golden Dome, in the old LSC building, which the co-op guts and completely renovates. The venue is a smash success, drawing a wide variety of local, regional and national acts — not to mention happily paying customers — and serving as the home base for the city's once more flourishing arts and music scene.

- Faced with another PR disaster after a staffer unwittingly approves permitting for a Memorial Auditorium concert at which 12 minors are arrested for being drunk — a brostep festival called "K.I.D.S. Intoxicated" — Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger closes the hall to music for good, which upsets ... well, no one, really. However, in a widely criticized move, he also enacts a *Footloose*-type ban on public dancing within city limits. As a result, South Burlington's Franny O's becomes the area's premier dance club.

- DJ A-Dog, aka Andy Williams, makes a complete recovery from leukemia and is back rocking local clubs by June. Thanks to incredible community support, money raised to help the DJ pay for his treatment far exceeds his medical bills. The remaining money is used to start an emergency fund for local musicians with medical emergencies. There's no joke here. Get well soon, Andy.

- Kickstarter continues to be an effective tool for musicians to fund recording projects. That is, until it reaches a critical mass in Burlington when every band in town simultaneously start campaigns. While each campaign reaches its goal, no albums are actually created because money donated to one Kickstarter effort is then donated to the next, and then the next, and so on, ad infinitum. The resulting conundrum becomes known as the Queen City Paradox and is the subject of several master's theses at MIT and a cover story in the *New York Times*, and leads to an Ann Coulter rant on Fox News against socialism, gun control, reproductive rights, universal health care and space aliens.

- Grace Potter and the Nocturnals threaten to cancel the third annual Grand Point North Festival at Burlington's Waterfront Park if Potter's likeness on the recent Church Street Marketplace mural isn't changed to more accurately reflect the singer's appearance. "They made me look like a bloated, drunk Tina Turner," Potter tells a *Rolling Stone* reporter of the painting. When informed of Potter's comments, Turner is said to be enraged. That is, until the R&B icon is shown a picture of the mural. Turner later agrees to headline Grand Point North when the painting is fixed.

- *Seven Days* music editor Dan Bolles continues a dubious trend as he places second in the Vermont Press Association's John D. Donoghue award for arts criticism for the fourth time in as many tries. As consolation for being the Susan Lucci of Vermont arts writing, the VPA creates a new award, the Dan Bolles Award for Music Criticism — for which Bolles finishes second.

- Two local festivals, the Precipice at Burlington's Intervale and Waking Windows in Winooski, explode in popularity as mainstream audiences discover what hardcore fans have long known. Local music kicks ass. In particular, Waking Windows is such a success that it prompts a documentary by local filmmaker Matt Day, entitled *Wakey Wakey, Winooski*. The film is screened at Sundance, which leads to major media attention on the 2014 festival, including writers from Paste and Pitchfork, who liken the three-day event to the earliest incarnations of South by Southwest in Austin.

- The Burlington Discover Jazz Festival celebrates its 30th anniversary in grand style. Highlights include nightly block parties on Church Street (complete with beer gardens!), the unveiling of an annual Ed Bemis Memorial All-Star Jam on the fest's closing day (deemed Ed Bemis Day), a tribute to late avant-garde composer Bill Dixon (who, despite living in Vermont, never played the festival), as well as an unprecedented number of marquee headliners, cutting-edge up-and-comers and talented locals. The weather cooperates, which is good news for the nightly showcases at Waterfront Park. The festival draws fans in record numbers, and though a good percentage of the acts only qualify as "jazz" under the most liberal definition of the term, it seems as though even purists heed the fest's controversial 2013 tag line: "Just shut the fuck up and have fun." ⑦

SOUNDbites

BY DAN BOLLES

Black Out

Man, 2013 is off to a rough start. Apologies in advance if this is the most depressing Soundbites column in years.

We begin our Vermont joyless parade in Montpelier, where news broke recently that the Black Door closed on January 1, 2013, adding yet another name to the list of recently deceased live-music venues in the state capital, along with the Lamb Abbey and the late, great Langdon Street Café.

The closing was announced in **ED DUFRESNE**'s January 3 "Capital Sounds" column for the *Barre-Montpelier Times Argus*. In it, DuFresne, who was the booking agent at the Black Door in addition to his music-scribe duties, writes that the BD went out "with a bang," a New Year's Eve blowout featuring red-hot local blues and soul man **DAVE KELLER**. But he laments that Keller's show will be the last on the club's third-floor stage for the foreseeable future. He's not the only one who's bummed.

KNAYTE LANDER, of Montpelier's Golden Dome Musicians' Collective and State and Main Records and the band **CHAMPAGNE DYNASTY**, writes in to say that the Black Door has been "a Montpelier rendezvous for years," dating back to the bar and restaurant's original owner, **PHIL GENTILE**. Lander recalls that, especially on summer nights when the joint's large outdoor patio was open, the Black Door was arguably the capital city's hottest nightspot. He adds that, particularly under Gentile, the club was a critical supporter of local music and arts in the city that "will be sorely missed!"

In his column, DuFresne echoes Lander's sentiment that Montpelier is losing a vital cog in its music scene. He points out that with the Black Door shuttering its doors, there remain only three venues in the city "actively booking" live music: Charlie O's, Positive Pie II and Bagitos. The Skinny Pancake also has live music, but generally only on Sunday afternoons.

DuFresne goes on to pose a larger question: "What's happening to the music scene in the capital city now that it's losing another one of its crucial venues?"



DJ A-Dog

It's a scary question to consider.

Only two years ago, Montpelier boasted a scene that was arguably the rival of any in the state, including its highfalutin big sister to the north, Burlington. Obviously, in terms of sheer size, the two cities aren't comparable. But on a per-capita scale, you could make a strong case that Montpelier's musical community was every bit as vibrant and creative as that of the Queen City — or, for that matter, Brattleboro's. It was a scene that boasted numerous quality venues, hordes of talented players, and a solid brain trust of progressive-minded movers and shakers. But then the dominoes began falling, starting with Lamb Abbey.

What is encouraging is that most of those pieces are still in place. The GDMC still claims a wealth of talent, in addition to the numerous independent artists who call the city and its surroundings home. There are still creative, motivated people — DuFresne and Lander, among others — willing to foster and further a growing scene. And, based on previous history, we can be fairly certain there's an audience willing to do its part. Which makes it all the more perplexing that the city continues to bleed quality venues.

I wish I had an easy answer — as do DuFresne and Lander, I imagine. But rather than speculate on symptoms and solutions, for now I'll simply echo DuFresne's hope that 2013 finds the city's remaining venues able to step up their game even further, and that maybe some mystery person or persons will take up the mantle and create a new outlet for live music in Montpelier. The future of a dynamic music scene depends on it.

I need a drink. Please tell me Charlie O's is still open.

Check Yo'self

As most of you have undoubtedly heard by now, **ANDY WILLIAMS**, aka **DJ A-DOG**, long regarded as one of the state's finest turntablists and sweetest guys around, was diagnosed with leukemia in December. (I told you this would be a depressing column.) Fortunately, he was diagnosed in the early stages of the disease — a factor that can tip the odds of recovery in a patient's favor. Unfortunately, like most musicians, Williams doesn't have adequate health insurance. I probably don't need to tell you that a month of chemotherapy and several months of outpatient treatment, which Williams is currently facing, come with a hefty price tag.

To help defray some of the costs, the Burlington music scene has already

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www.highergroundmusic.com
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MOON HOOCH
Fr 25 CAM MEEKINS + JACOB ES
Fr 25 MAX CREEK
Sa 26 LOTUS LAND: A TRIBUTE TO RUSH
Sa 26 JOHN BROWN'S BODY
Su 27 COREY SMITH
JOE ROBINSON
Tu 15 KEANE
YOUNGBLOOD HAWKE
UPCOMING
1/29 THE PHARCYDE
1/30 IMANCIPATOR
1/31 TIFT MERRITT
2/1 EOTO + CRIZZLY
2/2 JOHN VALBY
2/4 - WALK THE MOON
JUST ANNOUNCED
1/9 CHURCHILL
2/6 - POINT TORNADO
2/25 THE DIRTY HEADS
3/5 STARS
3/5 MARY GAUTHIER
3/25 LUCERO
TICKETS
INFO 652.0777 | TIX 888.512.SHOW
1214 Williston Rd. | S. Burlington
Growing Vermont, UVM Davis Center

WED.09

burlington area

CLUB METRONOME Normal Instruments (live EDM) 9 p.m., $7/10 18+

FRANNY O'S Karaoke, 9:30 p.m., Free

HALFLOUNGE Scott Mangan (singer-songwriter) 9 p.m., Free. Rewind with DJ Craig Mitchell (retro) 10 p.m., Free

JP'S PUB Karaoke with Morgan 10 p.m. Free

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Cody Sargent (jazz) 7 p.m. Free

LEVITY Kit Rivers, Sam Pelletier, Will Betts, Ian Stuart, John Tole (standup) 8 p.m., $6

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Open Mic with Andy Lugo 10 p.m. Free

MONKEY HOUSE Bandleader (rock) 8:30 p.m. Free 18+

NECTAR'S What a Joke! Comedy Open Mic (standup) 7 p.m. Free. Insigniya (funk) 9 p.m. $5/10 18+

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Pine Street Jazz 7 p.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Zack duPont (singer-songwriter) 6 p.m. Free. Ensemble Five (jazz) 7 p.m. Free. Irish Sessions 9 p.m. Free

RED SQUARE Michael Vincent Band (rock) 7 p.m. Free. DJ Cre8 (hip-hop) 10 p.m. Free

SKINNY PANCAKE Josh Panda and Brett Lanier (rock) 7 p.m. $5-10 donation

central

BAGITOS Acoustic Blues Jam with the Usual Suspects 6 p.m. Free

CHARLIE O'S Mark LeGrand (country) 8 p.m. Free

THE PINES Open Mic with John Lackard 9 p.m., Free.

PURPLE MOON PUB Bruce Jones (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. Free

WHAMMY BAR Open Mic 6:30 p.m. Free

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Karaoke with Let It Rock Entertainment, 9 p.m. Free

ON THE RISE BAKERY Open Bluegrass Session 8 p.m.

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free. Open Mic 9 p.m., Free

northern

BEE'S KNEES Max Weaver (singer songwriter) 7:30 p.m., Donations.

regional

MONOPOLE Open Mic, 8 p.m. Free

THU.10

burlington area

OOBBÁ TEA Robert Resnik (folk) 7 p.m. Free

FRANNY O'S Karaoke 9 p.m. Free

LEVITY Standup Comedy Open Mic (standup) 8:30 p.m. Free

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Hot Wax with Justceaus 8 Penn West (hip hop) 10 p.m. Free.

MONKEY HOUSE Set Up City-Bless the Child. Somewhere in the Solution. Basic Brains (hip-hop) 8:30 p.m., Free

NECTAR'S Trivia Mania with Top Hat Entertainment, 7 p.m. Free. A Benefit for the Snow Fun Scholarship Funkwagon, the Soul Mints, Ian Greenman (soul, funk) 9:30 p.m. $5 donation

O'BRIEN'S IRISH PUB DJ Dominic (hip hop) 9:30 p.m. Free.

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Bob MacKenzie Blues Band (blues) 7 p.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Dave Fugal & Julian Chobot (jazz) 6 p.m. Free. Kat Wright & the Indomitable Soul Band (soul) 11 p.m. $3.

RED SQUARE The Amida Bourbon Project (folk/rock) 7 p.m. Free. Jason Baron (EDM) 10 p.m. Free

RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM DJ Cre8 (house) 10 p.m., Free.

SKINNY PANCAKE Zack duPont (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. $5-10 donation

VENUE Thirsty Thursdays, 7 p.m. Free

central

BAGITOS The People's Café (political discussion) 8 p.m. Donations

GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN Thirsty Thursday Karaoke 9 p.m., Free

WHAMMY BAR Brian Clark (singer songwriter) 7 p.m. Free

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Trivia with Top Hat Entertainment, 7 p.m. Free

ON THE RISE BAKERY Open Mic 8 p.m. Free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN HOPE Trivia Fundraiser 7 p.m. $15/40. DJ Dizzle (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

northern

BEE'S KNEES Keith Williams & Aurora Stein (folk) 7:30 p.m., Donations

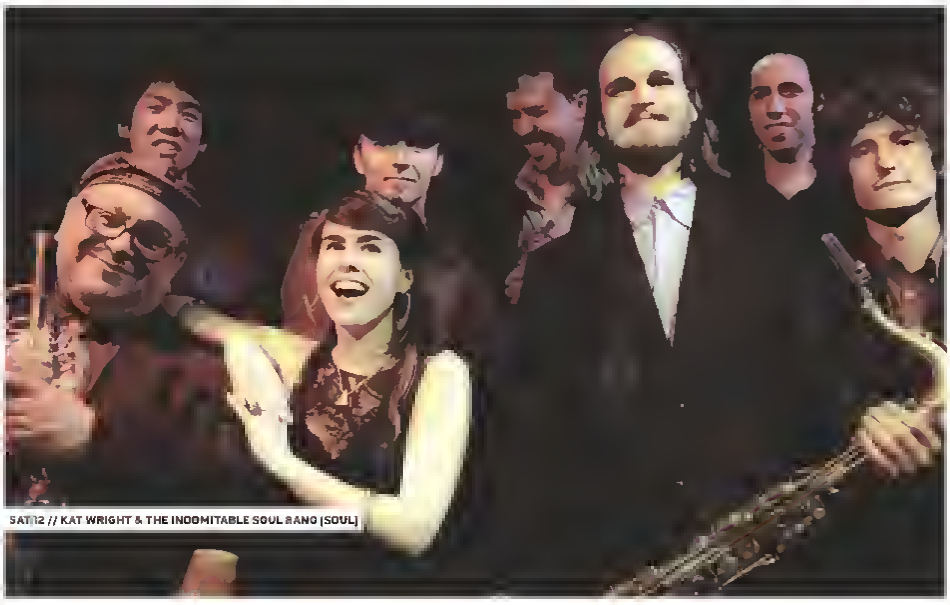
PARKER PIE CO Live Music 7 p.m. Free

regional

MONOPOLE DOWNSTAIRS Gary Peacock (singer-songwriter) 10 p.m. Free

OLIVE RIOLEY'S Karaoke 6 p.m., Free

THERAPY Therapy Thursdays with DJ NYCE (Top 40) 10:30 p.m., Free



SAT.12 // KAT WRIGHT & THE INDOMITABLE SOUL BAND (SOUL)

Do Wright Woman In just over a year, **KAT WRIGHT & THE INDOMITABLE SOUL BAND** have grown from the Thursday-night secret of Radio Bean regulars into one of the most dynamic and talked-about live acts in Burlington. Fresh off a searing NYE run at Higher Ground with indie-dance-pop phenoms Rubblebucket, the classic soul and R&B ensemble headline Nectar's on Saturday, January 12, with opening support from **JUSTIN LEVINSON & THE VALCOURS**.

FRI.11

burlington area

BACKSTAGE PUB Trivia Night 8 p.m. Free. Karaoke with Steve 9 p.m. Free

CLUB METRONOME No Digg by: Return to the 90s ('90s dance party) 9 p.m. $3

JP'S PUB Starstruck Karaoke 10 p.m. Free

LIFT Ladies Night 9 p.m., Free/$3

MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE Audrey Bernstein (jazz) 8:30 p.m., Free

MONKEY HOUSE The Vanderbuilts (indie) 8:30 p.m., $5. 18+

NECTAR'S Jay Burwick (solo acoustic) 5 p.m. Free. Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 7 p.m., Free. Nightrain (rock) 9 p.m. $5

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Ryan Hanson Band (rock) 5 p.m. Free. The Aerolites (rock) 9 p.m. Free

PARK PLACE TAVERN Smokin' Gun (rock) 9 p.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Kid's Music with Linda "Tickle Belly" Bassick (children's music) 10:30 a.m. Free. David Johnston (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. Free. David Tanklefsky (folk) 8 p.m. Free. Dead Creek Singers (rock) 9 p.m. Free. Japhy Ryder (prog rock) 11 p.m., Free

RED SQUARE Zack duPont (singer-songwriter) 5 p.m., Free. Anna and the Diggs (rock) 8 p.m. $5. DJ Craig Mitchell (house) 11 p.m. $5.

RUBEN JAMES DJ Cre8 (hip-hop) 10:30 p.m. Free

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB Supersounds DJ (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

SKINNY PANCAKE Tristan Omand (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. $5-10 donation.

central

BAGITOS David Kraus and John LaRouche (folk) 6 p.m., Donations.

GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN DJ Jonny P (Top 40) 9 p.m. $2

PURPLE MOON PUB Kip de Moll (blues) 8 p.m. Free

TUPELO MUSIC HALL Matt Schofield (singer-songwriter) 8 p.m. $25

champlain valley

51 MAIN Anwar Ensemble (world music) 9 p.m. Free

ON THE RISE BAKERY Loose Association (rock, r&b), 8 p.m., Donations

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Cooper & Lavoie (blues) 7 p.m. Free. DJ Dizzle (Top 40) 10 p.m. Free

FRI.11 » P.54

SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 51

begun to rally behind Williams. A benefit show at Club Metronome last Thursday, January 3, was a massive success. If you couldn't attend and want to pitch in, you can donate to the cause at mlu.com.

Other benefit shows are in the works, including at Red Square, where A-Dog has been a fixture behind the decks for years, and at Higher Ground. We'll have more details on both as they become available. But for now, keep an eye on your own health, OK?

Musicians, particularly young ones, tend to ignore warning signs, either because we think youth makes us invincible or because we lack sufficient health care coverage. Neither is a rational reason not to get regular checkups.

Cautionary tale: **BIG STAR** founder **ALEX CHILTON** died of a heart attack in 2010 at age 59. Despite experiencing all the typical warning signs — shortness of breath, chills, etc. — in the weeks preceding the attack, he never sought medical attention. Why? Chilton had no health insurance. Sure, that heart attack might still have claimed him had he gone to see a doctor. But there's also a possibility that proper care could have circumvented a fatal attack. We'll never know.

As my colleague at the *Burlington Free Press*, **BRENT HALLENBECK**, reported in an excellent article about A-Dog last week ["Burlington rallies to help DJ A-Dog," January 3], Williams felt a malaise set in following the death of his mother in early 2012. He found he was tired often. He could feel his heart pounding. He felt unmotivated. So he went to the doctor to see what was wrong. I shudder to think of the articles we'd likely be writing months from now had he not.

So, please, if you think you might need medical attention, seek it out. It might just save your life.

Stay strong, Andy.



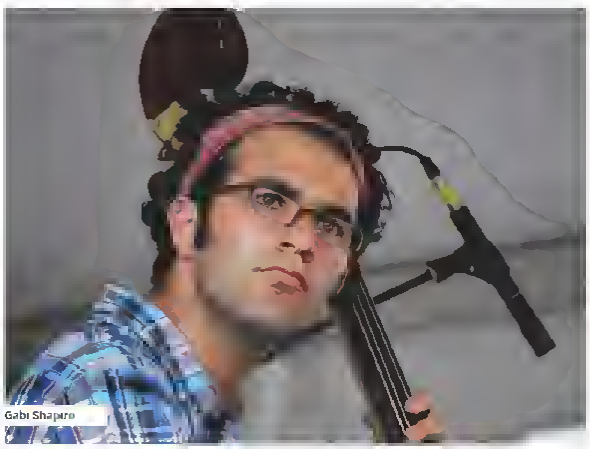
COURTESY OF CHAMPAGNE DYNASTY

Champagne Dynasty

BiteTorrent

In lighter news, Burlington has a brand spankin'-new local klezmer band, the **400 LUX KLEZMER ENSEMBLE**. Founded by **GABI SHAPIRO** (**GRUP ANWAR**, **BRASS BALAGAN**), the group features some ace world-music talent, including **JEFF DAVIS** (**LOKUM** Grup Anwar), **BRIAN PERKINS** (Brass Balagan), **COLIN HENKEL** (**SUNYATA**) and **MIKE FRIED** (**OR RUCKUS**). The band makes its second appearance on Tuesday, January 15, at Radio Bean in Burlington.

Last but not least, in Montpelier music news that doesn't suck, Bagitos is doing its best to fill the widening live-music void — or at least the folksy, acoustic part — in the capital city. The choice highlight this weekend is "Winter Songs," a showcase of central Vermont songwriters, including **NANCY SMITH** and **BRONWYN FRYER** performing the, ahem, chilling work of **JONI MITCHELL**, **LEONARD COHEN**, **PATTI CASEY** and others. Check it out on Saturday, January 12. ⑦



Gabi Shapiro

Listening In

A peek at what was on my iPod, turntable, eight-track player, etc. this week:

Camper Van Beethoven
La Costa Perdida

Yellow Red Sparks
Yellow Red Sparks

Triple Hex
E.P.

Mystical Weapons
Mystical Weapons

Chad VanGaalen
Diaper Island





FRI.11 «P.52

northern

MATTERNORN Al Copley (rock) 9 p.m. $5

PARKER PIE CO Celtic Acoustic Session 6 p.m. Free

RIMROCK'S MOUNTAIN TAVERN Friday Night Frequencies with DJ Rekkon (hip hop) 10 p.m. Free

regional

THERAPY Pulse with DJ Nyce (hip hop) 10 p.m., $5

SAT.12

burlington area

BACKSTAGE PUB Nomad (rock) 9 p.m. Free

CHURCH & MAIN RESTAURANT Night Vision (EDM) 8 p.m. Free

CLUB METRONOME Retronome (80s dance party) 10 p.m. $5

FRANNY O'S Karaoke 9 p.m., Free

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM. Infected Mushroom, the M Machine (EDM) 9 p.m. $25/27 AA

JP'S PUB Karaoke with Megan 10 p.m. Free

MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE Cooper & Lavoie (blues) 8:30 p.m., Free.

MONKEY HOUSE Mark Normand, Colin Ryan, Kevin Byer (standup) 8 p.m., $10 18+

MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN George Voland JAZZ, Patricia Julien 4 p.m., Free

NECTAR'S Joshua Glass (singer songwriter) 7 p.m. Free, Kat Wright & the Indomitable Soul Band, Justin Levinson & The Valcours, Joe Adler & His Sonic Rhetorician (soul, rock) 9 p.m. $5

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Sideshow Bob (rock) 3 p.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Matty Bums (hip-hop) 12:15 a.m., Free, UnKommon (hip-hop) 1 a.m. Free, Ease Luna Maple (folk) 4 p.m. Free, Randal Pierce Trio (jazz) 6 p.m. Free, James Harvey (jazz) 10:45 p.m., Donations

RED SQUARE. Jake Whitesell (jazz) 5 p.m. Free, The Aeroides (rock) 8 p.m. $5, Vidi Vici (EDM) 10 p.m. $5

RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM DJ Raul (salsa) 6 p.m. Free, Craig Mitchell (EDM) 10 p.m. $5

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB Party Wolf (rock) 10 p.m. Free

SKINNY PANCAKE Jer Coons & Caroline Rose (singer-songwriters) 7 p.m. $5-10 donation

VENUE 18 & Up Destination Saturdays 8 p.m., Free

central

BAGITOS Jason Mallery and Cyrus Graves (jazz) 11 a.m., Donations, Irish Sessions 2 p.m., Free, Winter Songs with Bronwyn Fryer and Friends (folk) 6 p.m. Donations

POSITIVE PIE 2 Set Up City, Bless the Child, Face One, Maystar (hip-hop) 10:30 p.m. $5

PURPLE MOON PUB The Heckhounds (blues) 8 p.m. Free

THE RESERVOIR RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM Stone Bullet (rock) 10 p.m. Free

TUPELO MUSIC HALL. Alan Doyle (singer songwriter) 7 p.m. $25, Club 186 (dance) 10 p.m., $5/8/10

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Dance Party with DJ Earl (Top 40) 8 p.m. Free.

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Zack duPont Trio (indie folk) 7 p.m. $3, DJ Mashlodon (hip-hop) 10 p.m., Free

northern

BEE'S KNEES McBride & Lussen (folk) 7:30 p.m., Donations

CHOW² BELLA The Best Little Border Band (jazz) 7:30 p.m. Free

MATTERHORN Al Copley (rock) 9 p.m. $5

PARRER PIE CO The Woodoggies (bluegrass) 8 p.m. $5

unknown

JAMES MOORE TAVERN Dewey Onve Band (rock) 8 p.m. Free

SUN.13

burlington area

CLUB METRONOME Aotearoa Casio Bastard, The Edd (live EDM) 5 p.m., $5

MONKEY HOUSE Paper Castles, Great Western (indie) 7:30 p.m. $5 18+

NECTAR'S Mi Yard Reggae Night with Big Dog & Demus 9 p.m. Free

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Brunch with Mitch Terricciano (jazz) 11 a.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Queen City Hot Club (gypsy jazz) 11 a.m., Free, Saloon Sessions with Brett Hughes (country) 2 p.m., Free, Jacob Green (blues folk) 5 p.m. Free, Anna Pantenik (singer songwriter) 6:30 p.m. Free, Chicky Stoltz (singer songwriter) 9:30 p.m., Free, Victoria Frances (singer songwriter) 11 p.m., Free

central

BAGITOS Sunday Brunch, Eric Friedman (jazz) 11 a.m. Donations

northern

BEE'S KNEES Rebecca Padula (folk) 11 a.m., Donations, Second Sunday Comedy (standup) 7:30 p.m. Donations.

MON.14

burlington area

NECTAR'S Metal Monday, Mucass, Hollow Colossus, Boatman's Lament (metal) 9 p.m. Free/$5 18+

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Open Mic with Wylie 7 p.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Project Organ Trio (funk) 7 p.m. Free, Open Mic 9 p.m. Free

RED SQUARE. Industry Night with Robbie J (hip-hop) 11 p.m. Free

RUBEN JAMES Why Not Monday? with Dakota (hip-hop) 10 p.m. Free

northern

MOOG'S PLACE Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 8 p.m., Free

TUE.15

burlington area

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM All Time Low, Fireworks (pop punk) 7:30 p.m. $20/22 AA

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Bob Wagner and Friends (jazz) 7 p.m. Free

MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN Open Mic 8 p.m. Free

TUE.15 »P.56

You Should Get That Checked Out

Amid the ever-evolving landscape of electronic dance music, it can be a challenge for the EDM layperson to know just what, exactly, he or she is shaking his or her ass to at any given moment. Is it dubstep? Brostep? Moombahton? Fortunately, fans of **INFECTED MUSHROOM** suffer no such conflicts of musical identity. The Israeli-born, LA-based duo invented its own EDM genre, "psychedelic trance music," in the 1990s as a synth-y, beat-heavy response to the analog rock sounds dominating airwaves at the time. As EDM explodes two decades later, they're still going strong. This Saturday, January 12, the duo brings its FungusAmongUs tour to the Higher Ground Ballroom. The **M MACHINE** open.



SAT.12 // INFECTED MUSHROOM (EDM)

REVIEW *this*

Set Up City
Amateur Hour
(JENKE RECORDS, DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)



Since the inception of Burlington's Jenke Records more than a year ago, the label has become a cornerstone for a segment of the local music community that might otherwise be overlooked. With a steady stream of releases, this motley crew of eccentric songwriters, producers and players has found strength in numbers; individual artists are thriving on the success of the collective. The majority of the label's releases have fallen under the parameters of rock and singer-songwriter styles. But Jenke's latest release, *Amateur Hour* by Set Up City, is a departure. Led by label founder Tommy Alexander, the record presents a broad spectrum of local hip-hop talent and may be Jenke's most complete, and impressive, release to date.

Producer/MC Face One deserves much of the credit for the album's tone and cohesion. From the celebratory opening cut "Welcome..." to the equally exultant closing track "Melody Is the Answer," Face One corrals an impressive array of beats and samples that frame, with polish and tact, the linguistic acrobatics of the group's numerous MCs. On "Stop the Stressin'," with an assist from coproducer Es-K, Face One sets a chill atmosphere with a laid-back, post-G-funk groove. MCs Alexander, J Kaine, Rajnu and Humble trade verses with effortless cool.

Local diva Kat Wright, of the Indomitable Soul Band, drops 10 on "Positive Stacks." Her soaring harmonies inject urgency and a welcome feminine charm to the largely male-dominated album.

"Easy as Pi" ups the record's intensity as Kaine, Alexander, Rajnu, Humble and Anthem spit lyrics over an insistent breakbeat. Despite the increased energy, the track maintains a hypnotic groove that meshes with the album's hazy overall vibe.

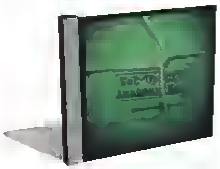
Thematically, most of Set Up City's material occupies the "higher consciousness" branch of underground hip-hop. There are moments — during "Mansion," for example — that the group's hyper-positive message treads perilously close to preachy earnestness and lightweight philosophy. If the record has one flaw, that's it. Heady ideals are occasionally presented with the nuance of a bumper sticker on a Prius.

Thankfully, such instances are the exception to the rule. While undoubtedly high-minded — philosophically and, yeah, narcotically — *Amateur Hour* succeeds on the combined skill, cognitive force and work ethic of its numerous creators. In that sense, the record is an allegory for Jenke itself, and a fine example of that label's collective spirit.

Amateur Hour by Set Up City is available for download at tommyalexander.bandcamp.com/album/amateur-hour. Set Up City play the Monkey House in Winooski on Thursday, January 10, and at Positive Pie 2 in Montpelier on Saturday, January 12.

DAN BOLLES

Lizzy Mandell,
Made for Flying
(SELF-RELEASED CD, DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)



Listeners to Lizzy Mandell's new album, *Made for Flying*, will likely be left with one burning question: Who the hell is Lizzy Mandell? Judging by the all-star local cast assembled on her debut, central Vermont music aficionados appear to have been clued into something that, until now, the rest of the state had not. Mandell is a considerably gifted singer and songwriter. How and why she has flown under the radar to this point is a mystery.

Mandell's freshman outing opens on "Isaac's Song." From her first crystalline vocal tones, it's clear we've been missing out on something good. Backed by multi-instrumentalist Colin McCaffrey — who also engineered the record — and vocalists Katie Trautz (Wooden Dinosaur) and Erica Heilman, Mandell sings this tender ode in a fragile yet emotionally forceful alto.

The title track follows, and again McCaffrey wields an assortment of acoustic instruments, this time including piano, cello and mandolin (he later turns up on a variety of guitars, strings and percussion). This cut is brighter and poppier than the last, and Mandell displays versatility as a vocalist, fortifying her delivery without sacrificing any of the subtle expressiveness that makes "Isaac's Song" so effective.

McCaffrey and Mandell continue to work in perfect concert. Nowhere is this more evident than on the gentle love song "Under Lock and Key." Here, McCaffrey sings backing vocals. His harmonies, just like his playing and producing, are beautifully understated. At the song's chorus — "Honey, walk with me / Come and take my hand / Let me help you to see, help you understand / My love for you will always be / Just keep my heart under lock and key" — McCaffery is an ideal balance to Mandell. David Rawlings to her Gillian Welch.

As impressive as McCaffrey's contributions are — not to mention those of Brian Clark, Will Galison and Simon Plumpton — *Made for Flying* is Mandell's show. Throughout the 11 original songs — two were cowritten with Hardwick's Jimmy Ryan — she showcases an engaging vocal approach and a uniquely tender style of country and folk songwriting that's as inviting as it is affecting. We may never know why it took Mandell so long to release her first album. But we sure can be glad she did.

Made for Flying by Lizzy Mandell is available at lizzymandell.com.

DAN BOLLES

GET YOUR MUSIC REVIEWED: IF YOU'RE AN INDEPENDENT ARTIST OR BAND MAKING MUSIC IN VT, SEND YOUR CD TO US: DAN BOLLES C/O *SEVEN DAYS*, 255 SO. CHAMPLAIN ST., STE 5, BURLINGTON, VT 05401



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FRI.11 // THE VANDERBUILTS (INDIE)

Apples to Apples

Combining confessional, literate songwriting, straightforward pop hookery and ornate — bordering on orchestral — arrangements, Syracuse, NY, quintet the **Vanderbuilts** trade in a lush indie folk sound that fans of the Decemberists, Okkervil River and Bright Eyes will undoubtedly find appealing. Touring in support of their debut full-length album, *Miguel's Orchard*, the band drops by the Monkey House in Winooski on Friday, January 11.

TUE.15 « P.54

NECTAR'S Mahali from Twiddle (solo acoustic) 7 p.m. Free. TallGrass Tuesday with TallGrass GetDown (bluegrass) 8 p.m. Free/$5 18+

OLDE NORTHENDER Abby Jenne & the Enablers (rock) 9 p.m. Free

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Trivia with Top Hat Entertainment, 7 p.m. Free

RADIO BEAN Lokum (Turkish gypsy) 6:30 p.m. Free. 400 Lux Klezmer Band 8:30 p.m. Free. Honky Tonk Sessions (honky-tonk) 10 p.m. $3.

RED SQUARE Craig Mitchell (house) 10 p.m. Free

RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM DJ Frank Grymes (EDM) 11 p.m. Free

central

BAGITOS Open Mic 6:30 p.m. Free.

CHARLIE O'S Karaoke, 10 p.m. Free

WHAMMY BAR Trivia Night 6:30 p.m. Free

champlain valley

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Monster Hits Karaoke 9 p.m. Free

northern

BEE'S KNEES Children's Sing Along with Lesley Grant (folk) 10 a.m. Donations

MOOG'S PLACE Open Mic/Jam Night, 8:30 p.m. Free.

WED.16

burlington area

CLUB METRONOME A Million Wordz (hip hop) 9 p.m. $5/7 18+

FRANNY O'S Karaoke 9:30 p.m. Free

NALFLOUNGE Rewind with DJ Craig Mitchell (retro) 10 p.m. Free

JP'S PUB Karaoke with Morgan 10 p.m. Free

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Ellen Powell and Friends (jazz) 7 p.m. Free

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Open Mic with Andy Lugo 10 p.m. Free

MONKEY HOUSE Bandleader (rock) 8:30 p.m. Free 18+

NECTAR'S What a Joke! Comedy Open Mic (standup) 7 p.m. Free. Climbing Up Walls' Second Agenda (rock) 9 p.m. Free/$5 18+

ON TAP BAR & GRILL Chad Hollister (acoustic) 7 p.m. Free.

RADIO BEAN Irish Sessions, 9 p.m. Free. Zack duPont 7 p.m. Free. The Cosmic Matrix, 11 p.m., Free

RED SQUARE DJ Creb (hip-hop) 10 p.m., Free. The Woodoggies (bluegrass) 7 p.m. Free

SKINNY PANCAKE Josh Panda and Brett Lanier (rock) 7 p.m. $5-10 donation

central

BAGITOS Acoustic Blues Jam with the Usual Suspects, 6 p.m., Free

THE PINES Open Mic with John Lackard 9 p.m. Free

SKINNY PANCAKE Alec Ellsworth (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. $5-10 donation

SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN Tim and Heff (rock) 8 p.m. Free

WHAMMY BAR Open Mic 6:30 p.m. Free

champlain valley

51 MAIN Blues Jam 8 p.m. Free

CITY LIMITS Karaoke with Let It Rock Entertainment, 9 p.m. Free

ON THE RISE BAKERY Small Pipers Session (bagpipe music) 7:30 p.m., Donations

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free

northern

BEE'S KNEES D. Davis (singer-songwriter) 7:30 p.m. Donations.

PARKER PIE CO. Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free.

regional

MONOPOLE Open Mic 8 p.m., Free





VENUES.411

BURLINGTON AREA

242 MAIN ST. Burlington 862-2244

AMERICAN FLATBREAD 115 St. Paul St., Burlington 861-2999

AUGUST FIRST 149 S Champlain St., Burlington, 540-0060

BACKSTAGE PUB 60 Pearl St. Essex Jct. 878-5464

BANANA WINDS CAFE & PUB 1 Market Pl. Essex Jct. 879-0752

THE BLOCK GALLERY 1 E. Allen St. Winooski 373-5150

BREAKWATER EAFÉ, 1 King St., Burlington 658-6276

BRENNAN'S PUB & BISTRO UVM Davis Center 590 Main St. Burlington 656-1204

CHURCH & MAIN RESTAURANT 156 Church St. Burlington, 540-3040

CITY SPORTS GRILLE, 215 Lower Mountain View Dr., Colchester 655-2720

CLUB METRONOME 188 Main St., Burlington 865-4563

OOBÁ TEA, 80 Church St. Burlington, 951-2424

FRANNY O'S 733 Queen City Park Rd. Burlington 863-2909

HALFLOUNGE 136 1/2 Church St. Burlington, 865-0012

HALVORSON'S UPSTREET EAFÉ, 16 Church St., Burlington, 658-0278

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JP'S PUB 139 Main St. Burlington, 658-6389.

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ 115 Church St. Burlington 863-3759

LEVITY CAFE 9 Center St., Burlington 318-4282

LIFT 165 Church St., Burlington, 660-2088

MAGLIANERO CAFÉ 47 Maple St. Burlington, 861-3155

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB, 167 Main St. Burlington 864-6776

MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE, 25 Cherry St. Burlington 854-4700

MONKEY HOUSE 30 Main St. Winooski 655-4563

MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN 7921 Williston Rd. Williston, 316-4262.

MUDDY WATERS 184 Main St., Burlington 658-0466

NECTAR'S 186 Main St. Burlington, 658-4771

O'BRIEN'S IRISH PUB 348 Main St. Winooski 338-4678

OLDE NORTHENDER, 23 North St. Burlington 864-9888

ON TAP BAR & GRILL, 4 Park St., Essex Jct. 878-3309

ONE PEPPER GRILL, 260 North St. Burlington 658-8800

OSCAR'S BISTRO & BAR, 190 Boxwood Dr. Williston 878-7082

PARK PLACE TAVERN 38 Park St. Essex Jct. 878-3015

RADIO BEAN 8 N. Winooski Ave. Burlington, 660-9348

RASPUTIN'S 163 Church St., Burlington 864-9324.

REG SQUARE 136 Church St., Burlington 859-8909

REGULAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION 84 Weaver St. Winooski 655-9859

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB 123 Church St., Burlington, 860-5401.

ROZZI'S LAKESHORE TAVERN 1022 W. Lakeshore Dr. Colchester 863-2342.

RUBEN JAMES 159 Main St. Burlington 864-0744.

SIGNAL KITCHEN 71 Main St., Burlington 399-2337

THE SKINNY PANCAKE 60 Lake St. Burlington 540-0188

VENUE, 127 Porters Point Rd., Colchester 310-4067

THE VERMONT PUB & BREWERY 144 College St. Burlington 865-0500

CENTRAL

BAGITO'S 28 Main St. Montpelier 229-9212.

BIG PICTURE THEATER & CAFÉ, 48 Carroll Rd. Waitsfield, 496-8934.

BREAKING GROUNDS, 245 Main St., Bethel 392-4222

THE CENTER BAKERY & CAFE, 2007 Guptil Rd. Waterbury Center 244-7500

CHARLIE D'S 70 Main St. Montpelier 223-6820

CIDER HOUSE BBQ AND PUB 1675 Rte 2 Waterbury 244-8400

CLEAN SLATE CAFÉ, 107 State St., Montpelier 225-6166

CORK WINE BAR 1 Stowe St. Waterbury 882-8227

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MULLIGAN'S IRISH PUB 9 Maple Ave. Barre 479-5545

NUTTY STEPH'S, 5611C Rt. 2, Middlesex, 229-2090

PICKLE BARREL NIGHTCLUB Killington Rd. Killington, 422-3035

THE PINES 1 Maple St. Chelsea 685-3344

THE PIZZA STONE 291 Pleasant St. Chester 875-2121

POSITIVE PIE 2, 20 State St. Montpelier 229-0453

PURPLE MOON PUB Rt. 100 Waitsfield 496-3422.

THE RESERVOIR RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM 15 Main St. Waterbury 244-7827

SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN 3180 German Flats Rd. Warren 583-2202.

TUPELO MUSIC HALL, 188 S Main St., White River Jct. 698-8341

WHAMMY BAR 31 W County Rd. Calais, 229-4329.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY

51 MAIN 51 Main St., Middlebury 388-8209.

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EAPOL'S HUNGRY MIND CAFÉ 24 Merchants Row Middlebury 388-0101

CITY LIMITS 14 Greene St. Vergennes 877-6414

CLEM'S CAFE 101 Merchant's Row Rutland 775-3337

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GOOD TIMES EAFÉ, Rt. 116, Hinesburg 482-4444

ND'S BAR & RESTAURANT 31 Main St. Bristol 453-2774.

ON THE RISE BAKERY 44 Bridge St., Richmond, 434-7787

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN 86 Main St., Middlebury 388-0002

NORTHERN

BEE'S KNEES 82 Lower Main St. Morrisville 888-7889

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BROWN'S MARKET BISTRO, 1618 Scott Highway Groton, 584-4124.

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CLAIRE'S RESTAURANT & BAR 41 Main St., Hardwick, 472-7053

COSMIC BAKERY & CAFÉ, 30 S Main St. St. Albans 524-0800

COUNTRY PANTRY DINER, 551 Main St. Fairfax 849-0599

CROP BISTRO & BREWERY 1859 Mountain Rd. Stowe, 253-4304

GREY FOX INN, 990 Mountain Rd. Stowe 253-8921

THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB 21 Lower Main St., Johnson 635-7626

THE LITTLE CABARET 34 Main St. Derby 293-9000

MATTERHORN 4969 Mountain Rd. Stowe 253-8198

THE MEETINGHOUSE, 4323 Rt. 108 S. Smugglers' Notch, 644-8851

MOOG'S PLACE, Portland St., Morrisville 851-8225

MUSIC BOX 147 Creek Rd. Craftsbury 586-7533

OVERTIME SALOON 38 S. Main St. St. Albans, 524-0357

PARKER PIE CO., 151 County Rd., West Glover 525-3366

PHAT KATS TAVERN 101 Depot St. Lyndonville, 626-3084.

PIEEASSO 839 Mountain Rd. Stowe 253-4411

RIMROCKS MOUNTAIN TAVERN 394 Mountain Rd. Stowe 253-9593

ROARSIDE TAVERN, 218 Rt. 7 Milton 660-8274

RUSTY NAIL BAR & GRILLE 1190 Mountain Rd. Stowe 253-6245

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WATERSHED TAVERN 31 Center St. Brandon 247-0100

YE OLDE ENGLAND INNE 443 Mountain Rd. Stowe 253-5320

REGIONAL

MONOPOLE, 7 Protection Ave. Plattsburgh, N.Y., 518-563-2222.

NAKED TURTLE, 1 Dock St., Plattsburgh, N.Y., 518-566-6200

OLIVE RIDLEY'S 37 Court St., Plattsburgh, N.Y., 518-324-2200

THERAPY 14 Margaret St. Plattsburgh, N.Y. 518-561-2041





In Session

Office Hours Gallery

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

Pamela Fraser and her husband, Randall Szott, turned their apartment near Chicago into a part-time gallery while she was teaching studio art at the University of Illinois. "Apartment galleries are a big phenomenon there," notes Fraser, who taught on the Chicago campus for six years before taking a faculty position at the University of Vermont in 2011. "But they wouldn't work here. Who's going to drive from Burlington to my house in Bolton to see art?"

Two portraits by Philip Brou, a former student of Fraser's, constitute the third show she's presented at Office Hours gallery. Alongside this pair of classically styled, oil-on-linen likenesses of Hollywood extras hangs a sample of Fraser's own, very different brand of painting. A chain of stylized flowers rendered in acrylic on a thin strip of canvas shimmies up the wall in a corner of her high-ceilinged office/gallery.

Fraser favors minimalist and conceptual work. Most of the paintings from the past three years featured on her website, pamelafraserstudio.com, consist of three geometric shapes — usually a triangle, circle and square in primary colors. "I like art that makes you think," she says.



"Central Casting" by Philip Brou

PHOTO: KEVIN J. KELLEY



Pamela Fraser

Yet Fraser so relished the role of co-curating what was literally an in-house exhibition space that she's gone and done the next best thing: turned her Williams Hall faculty office into a part-time gallery.

This time, it's a solo enterprise. Fraser and Szott alternated in choosing artists to present during the three-year run of their apartment gallery, called He Said She Said. His taste tended toward "egalitarian," while hers edged into "elitism," Fraser explains with a laugh.

These days, Szott divides his time between sailing around the Gulf of Mexico as a member of the Merchant Marine and musing about art and life on his aptly titled blog, Lebenskünstler (Life Artist).

Fraser, 47, has shown at several galleries in the United States and Europe, including Galerie Schmidt Maczollek in Cologne, Germany, which represents her internationally. After earning a painting degree from the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan and a master's from the University of

I SEE SOMEONE'S WORK I LIKE, SO I CALL THEM UP AND SAY, **"HEY, IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU COULD SHIP ME SOME STUFF TO SHOW IN MY GALLERY."**

PAMELA FRASER

California, Los Angeles, Fraser lived and worked for a few years in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, where she still maintains a studio. Red haired with matching lipstick, she looks a bit like singer-songwriter Holly Near did 20 years ago.

It's fun, Fraser says, to show the work of friends from outside Vermont to UVM colleagues, students and the occasional art aficionado who's sniffed out Office Hours gallery. Mostly, though, Fraser uses her unique venue as "a place for teaching." The gallery, which she opened soon after arriving at the university, has proved to be "even more of a pedagogical tool than I thought it would be," Fraser says.

She invites the entire art department for cookies and cider at openings of Office Hours shows. Students seem to enjoy the opportunity to talk with her about the work of contemporary artists drawn from her social and professional network around the country, Fraser says. Her selection process is somewhat serendipitous. "I see someone's work I like, so I call them up and say, 'Hey, it'd be great if you could ship me some stuff to show in my gallery,'" she explains.

The pieces Fraser hangs are not for sale, however. "That's a part [of the gig] I don't want to get into in this setting," she says. "I refer interested people to the artists' websites, but I'm doing this mainly for the students."

UVM undergraduates, she finds, are "generally good thinkers and good writers. Most could work a lot harder." A "handful" of those in her painting classes exhibit the kind of talent that might lead to professional success as artists, Fraser speculates.

And what about the broader Burlington art scene?

"It's pretty quiet," she comments. "It's not like the music scene here."

As for the quality of art she's seen in Vermont, Fraser says diplomatically, "There's a wide variety. I'm not the sort of person who judges art." ⑦

i Office Hours gallery, 211 Williams Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington. Times change each semester. Check officehours.gallery.blogspot.com for more info.

TALKS & EVENTS

'THE WAY WE WORKED' A traveling Smithsonian Institution exhibition that uses historical photographs, archival accounts and interactive components, as well as work by Vermont photographer Jack Rowell, to trace the nation's changing workforce and work environments over the last 150 years. Through January 27 at AVA Gallery and Art Center in Lebanon, N.H. Dartmouth College English professor Ernest Hebert, whose father worked in a textile mill for nearly 50 years, reads from his new novel, *Never Back Down*, which takes place in a textile mill in 1957. Thursday, January 10, 6 p.m. The documentary film *Connecting the Threads: Overalls to Art — H.W. Carter & Sons Factory* is screened, followed by a Q&A with former factory workers, Sunday, January 13, 4 p.m. Info, 603-448-3117.

SARAH ROSEDAHL "Feathers, Fur & Fins," watercolor, acrylic and mixed-media works inspired by the Vermont artist's love of animals and nature. Through January 31 at Island Arts South Hero Gallery. Meet the artist, Wednesday, January 9, noon-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 16, noon-1:30 p.m. Info, 372-5049, rosedahl.wordpress.com.

'[TBD] A POP-UP WORKSHOP' Participants experiment with screen printing tools and collectively curate an exquisite corpse. Cash bar. Friday, January 11, 6-10 p.m. JDK Gallery, Burlington.

RECEPTIONS

PATRICK LEAHY "The Eye of Senator Leahy," a collection of photographs by the U.S. Senator who has kept his camera close at hand during his 38 years in office. Through February 28 at Vermont Supreme Court Lobby in Montpelier. Reception, Sen. Leahy leads a guided tour of the exhibit, Wednesday, January 9, 5-7 p.m. Info, 828-0748.

PIPER STRONG "Art on Art," metal wall reliefs that explore masterworks throughout history. Through January 10 at Positive Pie in Hardwick. Reception, Thursday, January 10, 5-7 p.m. Info, 745-8600.

'RARE EARTH' Landscape photography from every creek and bend around the globe. January 10 through February 3 at Darkroom Gallery in Essex Junction. Reception, Sunday, January 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Info, 777-3688.

ANTHONY SINI "An Arrangement of Unequal Things," paintings and drawings. January 11 through February 22 at Flynndog in Burlington. Reception, Friday, January 11, 5:30-8 p.m. Info, 863-2227.

SOPHIA BERARD "The Route of et al," an installation that explores recollections and the perception of others through embroidery, drawing and sculpture. Through February 8 at Vermont Studio Center Gallery II in Johnson. Reception, Saturday, January 12, 7-9 p.m. Info, 635-2727.

ART LAB EXHIBITION Work by adults with special needs who meet weekly for art classes at AVA Gallery and Art Center. January 10 through May 31 at Courtyard by Marriott in Lebanon, N.H. Reception, Thursday, January 10, 5:30-7 p.m. Info, 603-448-3117.

ONGOING

burlington area

BILL BOCCIO Work by the Vermont photographer. Through January 31 at Brownell Library in Essex Junction. Info, 658-0745.

BROOKE MONTE Oil paintings, reproduction prints and gift cards by the Burlington artist. Through January 31 at Postie Bros. Flame Shop. Info, 660-9005.

BURLINGTON ELECTRIC ENERGY EFFICIENT ART Energy-themed drawings by Burlington fourth graders. Through January 31 at Metropolitan Gallery, Burlington City Hall. Info, 865-7166.

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS New paintings by Carolyn Walton, Susan Bull Riley, Athenia Schinto, Gail Bessette and Betty Ball, plus jewelry by Tineke Russell. A portion of proceeds benefit Sandy Dog Manners of Vermont, a group offering foster care to the canine victims of Hurricane Sandy. Through January 27 at Luxton Jones Gallery in Shelburne. Info, 985-8223.

DONA ANN MCADAMS "A View From the Backstretch," photographs and audio stories from the venerable Saratoga racecourse, produced in collaboration with the Vermont Folklife Center. Through January 26 at Amy E. Tarrant Gallery, Flynn Center in Burlington. Info, 652-4510.

GIFTS FOR STRANGERS Vermont artists' visual responses to the question, What would you give to a stranger for the holidays? Curated by Art's Alive. Through February 15 at Union Station in Burlington. Info, 660-9005.

GROUP EXHIBIT Photography by Jaques Burke and Kristen Watson; paintings by Marie-LaPrie Grabon and Leslie McCool; mixed-media work by Maria Anghelache and Alan Arnold; collage work by Elizabeth Nelson and Enka Lawlor Schmidt; and sculpture by Janet Van Fleet. Through April 30 at Maltex Building in Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

GROUP HOLIDAY ART EXHIBIT Work by members of the artists' collective. Through January 28 at Studio 268 in Burlington. Info, 578-2512.

GROUP SHOW Works by Lorraine Manley, Nancy Dwyer, (michael sm th), Ray Brown, Clark Derbes, Elizabeth Nelson and Ron Hernandez. Curated by SEABA. Through February 28 at The Innovation Center of Vermont in Burlington. Info, 859-9222.

JACKSON TUPPER Line drawings transposed from the Burlington artist's freshman year notebook onto the white walls of the venue. Through January 31 at Signal Kitchen in Burlington. Info, 399-2337.

JEAN LUC BUSHIME "The Hands of Hope," a photographic celebration of immigrants and former refugees who have rebuilt their lives in a new country. Through January 31 at ArtsRiot Gallery in Burlington.

JENNA ENOBESEN "Circling Back," mandalas created with pen and ink and other media. Through January 25 at New City Galerie in Burlington. Info, 735-2542.

JOHN ANDERSON "Drawings: 2006-2012." Constructed Conceptual "four-foot-es of work by the Vermont-based artist and architect in which paper and graphite drawings are cut, torn, rolled, twisted, folded and painted to create sculptural objects. **JASON HANASIK** "Fall in Line," photographs and video projections that aim to unpack traditional Western expectations related to masculinity, social class and valor within the context of the military. Through January 18 at BCA Center in Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

JOLENE GARANZHA & DANA DALE LEE "Mother/Father," prints by Garanzha; paintings by Lee. Through January 31 at Vintage Jewelers in Burlington. Info, 862-2233.

JULIE WARREN Paintings inspired by the wild flowers of the North Country. Through January 15 at Vermont Farm Table in Burlington. Info, 888-425-8838.

BURLINGTON AREA SHOWS » P.60

Watch something LOCAL this week.

VCAM CHANNEL 15
CHANNEL 15 ON BEING NATIVE MONDAYS > 3:30 PM

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CHANNEL 16 JAMES HOWARD KUNSTLER: THE END OF CHEAP ENERGY WED & SUN > 8 PM

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CHANNEL 17 WATCH UNDER THE DOME MONDAYS > 6 PM LEARN LEGISLATION

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CALL TO ARTISTS

WEST BRANCH GALLERY In Stowe is seek ng exhibition proposals for both solo and group shows for the 2013/ 2014 exhibition seasons If you are interested in submitting an exhibition proposal for the West Branch Gallery to rev ew please email te exhibitions@ westbranchgallery com to inquire about guidelines

CALL TO ARTISTS EXTENDED LARGE WORKS The S PA C E Gallery is cu at- ing an exhibit in the Soda Plant hallways for a three-month exhibit through April Artists are encou aged to submit work in any medium Each piece must measure a minimum of 3 feet in at least one direc tion Deadline January 31 Submission form http://bit ly/UoKMQ4

CREATIVE REUSE SHOWCASE A reuse art competition for 9th te 12th grade Chittenden County students Awards include cash prizes from local sponsors and a spot at Frog Hollow Gallery Info cswd net.

JOIN ONE BILLION RISING¹ Come make posters art and performances to raise awareness of violence against women Tuesdays in January at 7 p m Culminating event on February 14 Firefly Gallery 200 Ma n Street, Suite #5 Burlington

LOST & FOUND PHOTO EXHIBIT To happen upon something for gotten forsaken to find what was once lost, Jur ed photography exh bition at Darkroom Gallery Deadline February 6 Juror Davy Rothbart. Info darkroomgal lery com/ex39

MOLD MAKERS This SPA exhibit con- sists of artwork made from and related to the mold making process Including 2 D and 3 D work (paper resin metal fiberglass etc) and evidence of the process Deadline January 25 Info studioplacearts com

SKIN CALL FOR ENTRIES The undulat ng landscape of the human form is one of the most variable in nature Photo entries. Juror Allen Birnbach. Deadline March 6 Info darkroomgallery com/ ex40

COLOR STORY PHOTO EXHIBIT Calling for submissions Deadline January 18 Juror Seth Resnick. If a confident use of color defines your work we want to see it. Info darkroomgallery com/ex38

EXPOSED 2013 Open call to artists and writers for the 22nd annual Exposed Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition at Helen Day Art Center in Stowe Deadline January 4 Info helenday com/exposed

CREATIVE COMPETITION 004 Presented by the Root Gallery $8 entry fee People's choice vote winner takes all (compounded entry money) Limit one piece any size media or subject. First Friday of every month 6 10 p m Vote for your favorite piece until awards ceremony at 8 30 p m Location RLPhoto 27 Sears Lane Burlington Info publicartschool@gmail com



'Gifts for Strangers' Most of us have gone through the ordeal — or, perhaps, the adventure — of picking out a gift for a stranger Maybe it was part of a huge, officewide Secret Santa gift exchange Or at a family gathering with brand-new in-laws For its winter group show, Art's Alive asked Vermont artists a simple question What would you give to a stranger for the holidays? Their answers, rendered in a variety of 2- and 3-D media, are at Union Station and the Wing Building in Burlington And this exhibit is a gift that keeps on giving — it doesn't come down until February 15 Pictured. "Smile and Coffee" by Cathy Hartley

BURLINGTON AREA SHOWS « P 59

KATHRYN MILILLO "Barns and Landscapes," paint ings giclee prints and notecards by the Vermont artist. Through January 30 at Left Bank Home & Garden in Burlington. Info 862 1001

KELLY SCHULZE Animal portreiture by the owner of Mountain Dog Photography Through January 15 at The Gallery at Phoenix Books in Essex Junction Info 872 7101

LINCOLN HALLORAN Impasto paintings from the artist s Sunday Studio series Through January 31 at Speaking Volumes n Burlington Info, 540 0107

LOCAL: A WINTER ART SALE Affordable works by Vermont artists Beth Pearson, Gary Hall, Karen Henderson Steven Goodman Gillian Klein Roger Coleman, Lisa Lillibridge Tom Cullins, Mike Strauss, Susan Larkin and more Through January 25 at BCA Center in Burlington Info 865-7166

LYNN BEACH & JOYCE EANROLL. A holiday window display created in collaboration with the Lake Champlain Land Trust. Through January 15 at the Green Life in Burlington. Info 862 4150

MARIANNE OEVAUX Food-themed artwork. Through February 27 at Pine Street Deli in Burlington Info 862 9614

MICHAEL STRAUSS Paintings n acrylic and ink by the University of Vermont chemistry professor emeritus Through January 31 at SEABA Center in Burlington Info 859 9222

NICHOLAS HEILIG Work by the Burlington artist Curated by SEABA Through February 28 at VCAM Studio in Burlington Info 859 9222

OCEANIC ART AND THE PERFORMANCE OF LIFE Intr cately crafted objects including masks textiles and weaponry from indigeneus cultures of the Pacific Islands Through May 24 at Fleming Museum UVM in Burlington Info 656-0750

PHILIP BROU Central Casting," paintings of veteran film extras Through February 1 at Office Hours gallery in Burlington

SARAH GORDON Abstract paintings by the Burlington artist. Through January 31 at Red Square in Burlington Info 318 2439

SIENNA FONTAINE "If We Rose From Feathers," abstract paint washes merged with bold marks in ink, pen and embroidery Through January 29 at V ntage Inspired in Burlington Info 355 5418

'SMALL WORKS & ORNAMENTS Artist made holiday ornaments and works smaller than 12 square inches **SMALL GIFTS UNDER $30** Work by 10 local artists in the Backspace Gallery Through January 25 at S PA C E Gallery in Burlington Info, spacegalleryvt.com

STEVE CLARK Watercolor acrylic and mixed-media works dep cting iconic Vermont scenes. Through February 28 at Shelburne Vineyard. Info 985 8222.

STEVEN GOODMAN Abstract oil paintings Gates 1 8 **GALEN CHENEY** mixed media abstracts, Skyway **JOAN HOFFMANN** "Sand Dunes" and "Cathedral Rocks" o l landscapes Escalator Through January 31 at Burlington A rport in South Burlington Info 865 7166

'THIS PLACE OF VISION 21ST ANNUAL WINTER GROUP EXHIBIT' Work by more than a dozen artists including featured artist Kerry O Fuller Through January 31 at Furchgott Sourdiffe Gallery in Shelburne Info 985 3848

WATERCOLOR GONE WILD Works by Vermont Watercolor Society members who use mixed media unusual surfaces and non traditional painting methods Through January 20 at Davis Center UVM in Burlington

WINNIE LOOBY & KECIA GABORIAULT Canvas collage and textile work created collaboratively Through January 31 at Rose Street Artists Co op in Burlington Info 540-0376.

central

1861 1862 TOWARD A HIGHER MORAL PURPOSE An exhibition exploring the experiences of Norwich University alumni who fought in the Civil War featuring photographs, artwork, weapons and equipment, including a cannon likely used by Norwich cadets. Through April 30 at Sullivan Museum & History Center Norwich University in Northfield Info 485-2183

AMY LEE "NYC 1968 2012" photographs. Through February 2 at Capitol Grounds in Montpelier Info curator@capitolgrounds.com

BEGUILED BY THE WILD: THE ART OF CHARLEY HARPER Twenty Three serigraph prints by the artist known for his highly stylized wildlife prints, posters and book illustrations presented alongside hands on art activities and a companion exhibit. **CARTOONISTS' TAKE ON CHARLEY HARPER. GRAPHIC WORK FROM THE CENTER FOR CARTOON STUDIES** Through February 3 at Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich. Info 649-2200

DIGITAL REGIONAL A photography exhibit featuring digitally manipulated images virtual-reality photography and panoramas by Ian Croitz Les Jorgensen and MaryJane Sarvis January 15 through February 8 at Feick Fine Arts Center Green Mountain College in Poultney Info 287 8398

EXPRESSIONS Bronze and alabaster nests wall sculptures made from found objects and abstract paintings by Blake Larsen Mareva Millare, Pat Musick, Polly Whitcomb and Johanne Durocher Yordan Through January 27 at Vermont Institute of Contemporary Arts in Chester Info 875-1016

HOLIDAY SHOW Member artworks, including small unframed pieces for holiday gifting Through January 31 at Two Rivers Printmaking Studio in White River Junction Info 295 5901

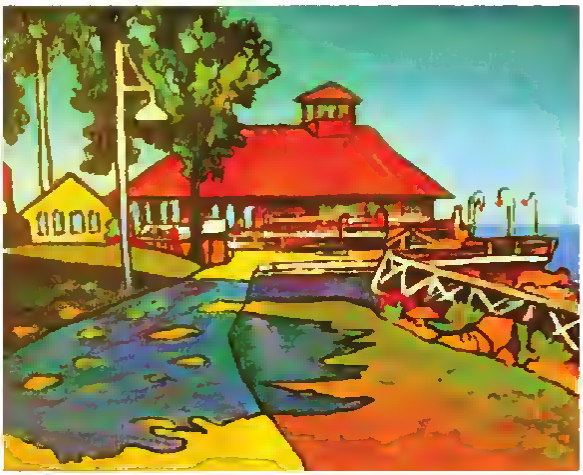
HOLIDAY SHOW 2012 Works priced under $1000 Through January 13 at BigTown Gallery in Rochester Info 767 9570.

LIGHT & SPACE "Work by printmakers Sabra Field and Dan O'Donnell fiber artist Karen Madden and sculptor Pat Musick. Through May 10 at The Great Hall in Springfield Info 885-3061

LINDA HOGAN "Ever Moving Ever Changing," digital photographs by the Montpelier artist. Through February 25 at Contemporary Dance & Fitness Studio in Montpelier Info 229 4676

MYRA HUDSON Landscape and figure oil paintings by the Boyalton artist. Through January 18 at Tunbridge Public Library Info 889 9404

CENTRAL VT SHOWS » P62



Michael Strauss When Michael Strauss was growing up in California, he collected crystals, insects and shells — and then he drew them. He went on to integrate his artistic and scientific interests as a professor at the University of Vermont, where he taught both chemistry and art. "I consider drawing and painting a form of visual reasoning, a powerful and provocative way of learning about the world," Strauss writes on his website. His acrylic paintings of Vermont scenes have an almost stained-glass quality, defined by dark edges and bold colors. Find them at the SEABA Center in Burlington through January 31, all proceeds benefit the South End Arts and Business Association. Pictured: "Burlington Boathouse"

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CENTRAL VT SHOWS « P61

PIPER STRONG "Mastering the Figure Through Time" Steel, brass and enamel "painted metal constructions of art history classics. Through January 31 at Montpelier City Hall. Info 745-8800.

"SURVIVAL SOUP" Collage painting and mixed-media work by Randolph artists Travis Dunning, Matthew Riley and Seth Tracy and White River Junction artist Ben Peberdy. Through March 8 at Main Street Museum in White River Junction. Info 356-2778.

SUSAN ABBOTT "Paris/Provence" still life and landscape paintings. Through January 18 at Central Vermont Medical Center in Barre.

SUSAN BULL RILEY Oil and watercolor paintings by the Vermont artist. Through February 28 at Vermont Thrush Restaurant in Montpelier. Info 225-6166.

"THE HOLLY & THE IVY" A holiday exhibition and sale of art and fine crafts by local and out-of-state artists. Through January 26 at Nuance Gallery in Windsor. Info 674-9618.

THEODORE KAYE Photographs from central Asia including landscapes, images from daily life and scenes from buzkashi, a fierce version of polo on horseback. Through January 27 at Blinking Light Gallery in Plainfield. Info 454-0141.

WARD JOYCE "Human Landscapes" paintings and drawings that explore the forms of the city and the architecture of the human body. Through January 31 at Hartness Gallery, Vermont Technical College, in Randolph Center. Info 728-1237.

champlain valley

"2012 WINTER ALL MEMBERS SHOW" An annual exhibit of member artwork. Through January 12 at Chaffee Art Center in Rutland. Info 775-0356.

CAROLYN SHATTUCK Works created by layering individual monoprint plates over one another to create subtle environments of color, pattern and line. Through April 1 at Brandon Music. Info 465-4071.

"CONTEMPORARY JEWELS, AN OFFERING" Works by five artists of Tibetan heritage presented in honor of the Dalai Lama's recent visit to Middlebury. Through January 11 at Davis Family Library, Middlebury College. Info 443-5235.

DOUGLAS KIRKLAND Photographic portraits of celebrities such as Marilyn Monroe, Elizabeth Taylor, Judy Garland, Paul Newman, Audrey Hepburn, Sophia Loren, John Lennon and George Clooney. Through February 28 at Jackson Gallery, Town Hall Theater, in Middlebury. Info 382-9222.

"IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON" A holiday show of member artworks priced under $200. Through January 15 at Brandon Artists Guild. Info 247-4956.

"TRAINS! TRAINS! TRAINS!" An elaborate three-level electric-train display with a background painted by local artist Gayl Braisted. Through January 12 at Sheldon Museum in Middlebury. Info 388-2117.

northern

ANN FAISON "Backyard Birds and Trees" watercolors. Through January 14 at Parker Pie Co. in West Glover. Info 525-3366.

LIFE-DRAWING SHOW Drawings by local artists who meet once a week at the Montgomery library to sketch from a live nude model. Through January 31 at Artist in Residence Cooperative Gallery in Enosburg Falls. Info 933-8403.

MICHAEL LEWI SMITH "Portraits in Stone" black-and-white photographs of historic granite cemetery statues and monuments. Through February 26 at Claire's Restaurant & Bar in Hardwick. Info 472-7053.



Douglas Kirkland Audrey Hepburn wears a white riding hat and blazer, clutching white sunglasses with her white-gloved hand. Elizabeth Taylor stares alluringly at the camera, her deep, violet eyes vying for attention, with a prominent tracheotomy scar. Douglas Kirkland photographed anybody who was anybody in classic Hollywood. The Toronto-born photographer got his start at *Look* magazine and went on to shoot for *LIFE* in the '60s and '70s. Kirkland, who still works as a photojournalist, lives in the Hollywood Hills but he has family in Middlebury, and that's how his star-studded photographs found their way to the walls of the Jackson Gallery at Mudd's Town Hall Theater. Stop in to see Marilyn Monroe, Paul Newman and the rest of the A-list through February 28. Pictured: Elizabeth Taylor.

POLLY WHITCOMB "Old Implements & Fresh Clay" sculptural wall hangings made from salvaged industrial parts. Through February 28 at Stowe Craft & Design. Info, 253-7677.

southern

LINDA BURKEE "The Poetry of Color" collages, paintings and photographs. Through January 14 at The Gallery at Equinox Village in Manchester Center. Info 382-4081.

regional

"CROSSING CULTURES" A survey of Australia's contemporary indigenous art movement from the 1970s to the present drawn from one of the world's largest collections of aboriginal art. Through March 10 at Hood Museum, Dartmouth College, in Hanover, N.H. Info 603-646-2095.

JENNY CURTIS Three-dimensional artwork by the local artist. Through January 10 at ROTA Gallery in Plattsburgh, N.Y. Info 518-314-9872.

ONCE UPON A TIME... IMPRESSIONISM, GREAT FRENCH PAINTINGS FROM THE CLARK A traveling exhibit of paintings by Bonnard, Corot, Degas, Gauguin, Manet, Millet, Monet, Morisot, Pissarro, Renoir, Sisley and Toulouse-Lautrec. Through January 20 at Montréal Museum of Fine Arts. Info 514-285-2000.

WINTER WATERCOLOR SHOW Work by the Vermont Watercolor Society. Though March 2 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. Info, vermontwatercolorsociety.com.

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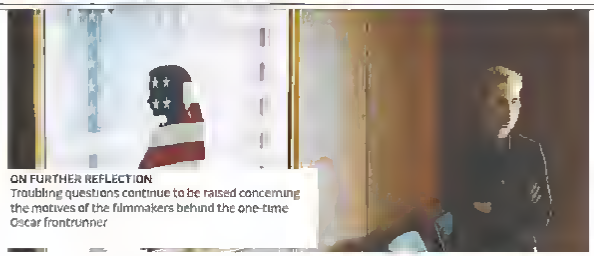
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ON FURTHER REFLECTION
Troubling questions continue to be raised concerning the motives of the filmmakers behind the one-time Oscar frontrunner

Zero Dark Thirty ★★★½

Now we know what some members of Congress were doing when they should've been dealing with the fiscal cliff and passing an aid package for victims of Sandy. They were catching a movie.

And, ever since seeing *Zero Dark Thirty*, their main interest has been catching members of the intelligence community who consulted on it with director Kathryn Bigelow and screenwriter Mark Boal, the Oscar-winning team behind 2008's *The Hurt Locker*. This past Thursday, the Senate Intelligence Committee launched an investigation into the matter. Seriously.

The critically hailed dramatization of the hunt for Osama bin Laden opens nationally this week, so it's probably the perfect time for a recap of this unprecedented movie brouhaha. (Google as I may, I can't find a comprehensive analysis anywhere.) Let's begin with the torture. Just as the film does.

Bigelow starts things off with a powerful juxtaposition. The screen is black as we listen to a collage of terrified voices: recordings of real 911 calls from the morning of September 11, 2001. The first thing we see is the brutal interrogation of a detainee two years later at a CIA black site. The inference is clear. The former has led to the latter.

Jessica Chastain plays Maya, an operative "just off the plane from D.C.," in the words of Dan (Jason Clarke), the colleague responsible for the rough stuff. She quickly gets into the swing of things, employing enhanced techniques herself (assisted by a silent hulk who supplies slaps and punches at her direction).

Eventually, a suspect, Dan and Maya have abusively interrogated for days, gives up the name of bin Laden's courier, the figure who'll ultimately lead agents to the compound in Abbottabad. Again, the inference is crystal clear: Torture and enhanced techniques led to the information that led to bin Laden.

Except they didn't. At least, not according to key players such as President Obama, ex-CIA director Leon Panetta and acting head Michael Morell, as well as high-ranking members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and others in Congress who've reviewed the classified record.

"You believe when watching this movie that waterboarding and torture lead to information that leads then to the elimination of Osama bin Laden," Sen. John McCain grumped to CNN last month. "That's not the case." McCain is part of the group — which includes Senators Dianne Feinstein and Carl Levin — that has reviewed government documents and now wants to get to the bottom of who at the CIA told what to Bigelow and Boal and, by implication, why the filmmakers made a movie suggesting torture was pivotal to the manhunt's success when it wasn't.

Given how immersive and meticulously detailed the film's account of the decade-long search for the world's most wanted man is, it's surprising how uncompelling its creators' response to the controversy has proved. In a statement the filmmakers released together, they denied their picture takes a position on the role torture played. "The film shows that no single method was necessarily responsible for solving the manhunt, nor can any single scene taken in isolation fairly capture the totality of efforts the film dramatizes." Huh?

Perhaps in an attempt to improve on that nonanswer, Boal has since told the *New Yorker*, "It's a movie, not a documentary. We're trying to make the point that waterboarding and other harsh tactics were part of the CIA program."

The problem with that, of course, is that everybody already knew they were. We hardly needed a Hollywood procedural — even a well-made, immensely watchable one — to inform us that America took the moral gloves off in the aftermath of 9/11. The question remains, then: Why did Bigelow and Boal decide to make the point that torture led to intelligence that led to bin Laden when that evidently wasn't the story they got from insiders? There appear to be two possibilities.

The first is that they're pro-torture. That seems unlikely. The second is that they simply believed it made for a better story — that a saga of dogged detective work wouldn't have proved dramatic enough — and somehow failed to anticipate that poetic license on this subject would provoke such outrage. In other words, they screwed up, as *Entertainment Weekly*'s Owen Gleiberman suggested in a December 19 piece, writing, "One of the things that occurred to me was the possibility that the director and screenwriter didn't understand their own movie."

It's safe to say the creators of *Zero Dark Thirty* expected to be hearing more about Oscar nominations and less about Senate panels as their movie neared wide release. When it hits theaters Friday, everyone will finally have an opportunity to see what all the hubbub's about. When we'll start getting straight answers from Bigelow and Boal on the other hand, is anybody's guess.

RICK KISONAK

The Impossible ★★★

Like *Zero Dark Thirty* — though on a smaller scale — *The Impossible* has awakened controversy with its dramatization of recent history. In this case, the history is the Indian Ocean tsunami of December 26, 2004. Many critics have noted with raised eyebrows that, out of the hundreds of thousands of people killed or affected by the disaster on multiple continents, director Juan Antonio Bayona and screenwriter Sergio G. Sánchez have chosen to focus on a few rich, lily-white tourists.

That's true. Far from being a comprehensive portrait of the catastrophe, *The Impossible* is based on the factual account of a single Spanish family. On screen, moreover, they've become a gaggle of adorable British towheads: mom Naomi Watts, dad Ewan McGregor, 14-year-old son Lucas (Tom Holland) and two lookalike younger boys (Samuel Joslin and Oaklee Pendergast). The script is boilerplate, and the film's early scenes, where the family flies into Thailand for their Christmas vacay, would be difficult to distinguish from a Lifetime movie if you didn't know the caliber of the actors involved.

But then all hell breaks loose. The banality and blandness of the preceding scenes only serve to highlight the terror of a digital mega-wave barreling toward the resort — and the viewer. One minute, Watts' Maria is pondering whether she should go back to work, the next, she is fighting for her life and her son's, and facing the likelihood that she'll never see the rest of her family again. As in a horror film, it doesn't matter anymore who these people are — only how they react. And it's not nature's rage and destruction that seem "impossible," but their collective survival.

Bayona's acclaimed previous film, *The Orphanage*, was a sophisticated fright flick about a mother's love for her son. The best parts of *The Impossible* are essentially the same thing. When the critically wounded Maria finds herself in a hospital with Lucas separated from the rest of the family, she tells the doctors, "I'm all he has in the world!" An inferior actress would cheese up the moment, but Watts' performance is raw enough to wring tears from the jaded. Holland is just as powerful as a boy who knows he may be orphaned in the next few hours but keeps busy by running around the hospital, trying to reunite other survivors.



SURVIVAL THRILLS
Watts and Holland cling to each other amid the tsunami's wreckage in Bayona's drama

Those scenes are among the film's persistent reminders that, no, the tsunami did not just terrorize one family. Should the filmmakers have made a stronger effort to put native Thai victims on-screen? Yes. But we shouldn't need reminding that every mass disaster leaves as many stories in its wake as there are survivors. This is merely one — with an improbable but true ending.

MARGOT HARRISON

NEW IN THEATERS

GANGSTER SQUAD Los Angeles 1949. A renegade LAPD team goes up against the ruthless mobster who owns the cops in this crime thriller that sounds like a mashup of *L.A. Confidential* and *Young Guns*, since it stars flavors of the moment Josh Brolin, Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone — plus Sean Penn and Nick Nolte. Ruben (*Zombieland*) Fleischer directed. (113 min. R. Essex, Majestic, Palace, Paramount, Roxy, Stowe)

A HAUNTED HOUSE The makers of *Scary Movie* are back to their spoofing ways in this horror comedy about a couple who find themselves hounded by spirits. *Paranormal Activity* style. Marlon Wayans, Essence Atkins and Nick Swardson star. Mike Tiddes directed. (88 min. R. Essex, Palace)

MAHLER ON THE COUCH German filmmakers Felix and Percy Adlon tell the story of the single afternoon the great composer (Johannes Silberschneider) spent airing his marital woes with Sigmund Freud (Karl Markovics) in 1910. (98 min. R. Savoy)

ZERO DARK THIRTY★★★1/2 The team behind *The Hurt Locker* (director Kathryn Bigelow and writer Mark Boal) bring us this controversial fact-based drama about the hunt for Osama bin Laden. Jessica Chastain, Joel Edgerton and Chris Pratt star. (157 min. R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Roxy)

NOW PLAYING

THE CENTRAL PARK FIVE★★★★ This documentary from Ken Burns, Sarah Burns and David McMahon explores the fates of five young men who were wrongfully convicted of the vicious rape of a jogger in Central Park in 1989. (119 min. NR. Savoy. ends 1/10)

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL: WORLDS AWAY★★1/2 The surreal world of the circus troupe becomes the setting for a couple's struggle to reunite in this fantasy spectacle-adventure thing directed by Andrew (*Shrek*) Adamson. With Dallas Barnett, Lutz Halbhubner and Erica Linz. (91 min. PG. Essex [3-D], Majestic [3-D]. ends 1/10)

DJANGO UNCHAINED★★★★ Quentin Tarantino goes Southern gothic. Jamie Foxx plays a former slave who sets out to rescue his wife from an evil plantation owner. With Leonardo DiCaprio, Christoph Waltz and Kerry Washington. (165 min. R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Roxy, Stowe)

THE GUILT TRIP★★1/2 Seth Rogen plays an inventor who somehow finds himself bringing his meddling mom (Barbra Streisand) along on a 3000-mile road trip in this comedy. With Adam Scott. Anne (*The Proposal*) Fletcher directed. (95 min. PG-13. Essex. ends 1/10)

THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY★★★ J.R.R. Tolkien's relatively brief prequel to *The Lord of the Rings* chronicling Bilbo Baggins' quest to reclaim a dragon's treasure is slated to become three long movies. This first installment is directed by *LOTR*'s Peter Jackson and stars Martin Freeman, Ian McKellen, Richard Armitage and Andy Serkis. (170 min. PG-13. Big Picture Essex [3-D], Majestic [3-D], Marquis [3-D], Palace, Paramount [3-D], Roxy, Stowe, Welden [3-D])

HYDE PARK ON HUDSON Presidential film incoming! Bill Murray plays FDR in this drama about an eventful weekend in 1939 when he hosted the British royals — and got up to mischief with his distant cousin (Laura Linney). Roger (*Notting Hill*) Michell directed. (94 min. R. Roxy, Savoy)

THE IMPOSSIBLE★★★ The true story of a vacationing family's ordeal during and after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami inspired this disaster drama from J.A. (*The Orphanage*) Bayona. Naomi Watts, Ewan McGregor and Tom Holland star. (114 min. PG-13. Roxy)

JACK REACHER★★1/2 Tom Cruise plays Lee Child's hard-boiled detective in this adaptation of the novel *One Shot* about the search for a deadly sniper. With Richard Jenkins and Rosamund Pike. Christopher (*The Way of the Gun*) McQuarrie directed. (130 min. PG-13. Big Picture, Essex, Majestic, Palace, Paramount)

LES MISERABLES★★★ Hugh Jackman plays ex-con Jean Valjean in this adaptation of the long-running musical based on Victor Hugo's novel about politically turbulent France in the 1830s. With Anne Hathaway, Russell Crowe and Sacha Baron Cohen. Tom (*The King's Speech*) Hooper directed. (158 min. PG-13. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Roxy)

LINCOLN★★★★★ Steven Spielberg directs this look inside Honest Abe's cabinet during the Civil War as the president (Daniel Day-Lewis) works to gather the political capital to pass the 13th Amendment. Playwright Tony Kushner scripted. With Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Tommy Lee Jones and Sally Field. (150 min. PG. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Roxy)

MONSTERS, INC (3D) The 2001 Pixar animated hit about monsters who generate power for their city by scaring kids returns with a new dimension. With the voices of John Goodman and Billy Crystal. Pete Docter, David Silverman and Lee Unkrich directed. (96 min. G. Essex, Majestic. ends 1/10)

NOT FADE AWAY★★★1/2 "The Sopranos" creator David Chase makes his feature film debut with this drama tracing the upheavals of the 1960s through their impact on one New Jersey family including an aspiring rock star (John Magaro) and his down-to-earth dad (James Gandolfini). (112 min. R. Palace. ends 1/10)

PARENTAL GUIDANCE★★ Billy Crystal plays a grumpy Gramps enlisted to babysit his spoiled grandkids in this comedy also starring Bette Midler and Marisa Tomei. Andy (*The Game Plan*) Fickman directed. (100 min. PG. Capitol, Stowe)

PROMISED LAND★★1/2 A natural gas salesman (Matt Damon) comes to a rural area to frack and ends up in danger of being fracked — er, fired — when an environmentalist (John Krasinski) opposes his efforts to win over the townspeople. With Frances McDormand and Hal Holbrook. Gus Van Sant directed. (110 min. R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Palace)

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS★★★ Santa, the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy and other childhood icons team up. Avengers style, to combat a world-threatening menace in this DreamWorks family animation. With the voices of Alec Baldwin, Chris Pine, Hugh Jackman, Isla Fisher and Jude Law. Peter Ramsey directed. (97 min. PG. Majestic. ends 1/10)

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK★★★★ Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence play two people with degrees of mental illness who forge an oddball bond in this dark romantic comedy from director David O. (*The Fighter*) Russell. With Robert De Niro, Jacki Weaver and Chris Tucker. (122 min. R. Palace)

SKYFALL★★★★ Sam (*Revolutionary Road*) Mendes directed the latest James Bond adventure, in which the superspy (Daniel Craig) faces a threat to MI6 from within. With Helen McCrory, Javier Bardem, Judi Dench and Ralph Fiennes. (143 min. PG-13. Big Picture, Paramount. ends 1/10)

ratings

★ = refund, please
★★ = could've been worse, but not a lot
★★★ = has its moments, so-so
★★★★ = smarter than the average bear
★★★★★ = as good as it gets

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Django Unchained

BIG PICTURE THEATER

48 Carnett Rd. (off Rte. 100), Waitsfield, 496-8984, bigpicturetheater.info

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 7 **Jack Reacher** Wed 7

Full schedule not available at press time

BIJOU CINEPLEX 4

Rte. 100, Morrisville, 888-3283, bijou4.com

Full schedule not available at press time

CAPITOL SHOWPLACE

93 State St., Montpelier, 229-0343, fgltheaters.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
Promised Land 6:25 9 **Lincoln** 5:10 9 **Django Unchained** 6 9:15 **Les Miserables** 6:15 9:15 **Parental Guidance** 6:30 **This Is 40** 9

friday 11 — thursday 17
Django Unchained 12:10 (Sat. & Sun. only) 6 9:15 **Les Miserables** 12:15 & 3:15 (Sat. & Sun. only) 6:15 9:15 **Lincoln** 12:30 & 3:20 (Sat. & Sun. only) 5:10 9 **Parental Guidance** 12:45 & 3:30 (Sat. & Sun. only) 6:30 **Promised Land** 3:10 (Sat. & Sun. only) 9 ***Zero Dark Thirty** 12:15 & 3:15 (Sat. & Sun. only) 6:15 9:15

ESSEX CINEMAS & T-REX THEATER

21 Essex Way #300, Essex, 878-5543, essexcinemas.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D 1:15 **Django Unchained** 1:25 4:50 8:15 **The Guilt Trip** 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 9D** 12:40 7:30 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 4:05 **Jack Reacher** 1:10 4:6 4:45 9:30 **Les Miserables** Wed 1:30 5:8:30 Thu 1:30 7:15 9:15 **Lincoln** Wed 2:55 6 9:05 Thu 3:30 **Monsters Inc 3D** 12:45 **Parental Guidance** 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50 **Promised Land** 12:35 2:55 5:15 7:35, 9:55 **Texas Chainsaw** 5 9:40 **Texas Chainsaw 3D** 12:30 2:45, 7:10 **This Is 40** 12:35 3:30 6:50 9:20 ***Top Gun** Thu 7

friday 11 — thursday 17
Django Unchained 2:50 6:10 9:30 ***Gangster Squad** 12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10 ***A Haunted House** 12:50 3:45 5:45 7:45 9:45 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D** 12:40 7:30 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 4:05 **Jack Reacher** 3:35 9:30 **Las Miserables** 12:3:15 6:30 9:45 **Lincoln** 12:40 **Parental Guidance** 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50 **Promised Land** 12:35 2:55, 5:15 7:35, 9:55 **Texas Chainsaw** Fri 4:30 9:20 Sat 4:30 Sun 1:0 Thu 4:30 9:20 **Texas Chainsaw 3D** 12:20 2:25 6:35 **This Is 40** 12:35 6:30 ***Zero Dark Thirty** 12 3:15 6:30 9:45

MAJESTIC 10

160 Boxwood St. (Maple Tree Place, Taft Corners), Williston, 878-2010, majestic10.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D 12, 4:30 **Django Unchained** 1:30 6:20 9:05 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D** 2:30 6 9 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 3:50 7:30 **Jack Reacher** 1:10 7 9:45 **Las Miserables** 1:10 4:45 6:10 9:20 **Lincoln** 12:30 6 **Monsters Inc 3D** 12:15 **Parental Guidance** 12 2:20 7:10 9:30 **Promised Land** 1:10 3:40 6:40 9:40 **Rise of the Guardians** 4:40 **Texas Chainsaw 3D** 12, 2:15 6:50 9:35, **This Is 40** 12:40 3:30 6:30 9:25

friday 11 — thursday 17
Django Unchained Fri to Sun 11:30 a.m. 3:6:25 9, Mon to Thu 1:30 6:25 9 ***Gangster Squad** Fri to Sun 11:20 a.m. 1:50 4:20 6:50 9:25, Mon to Thu 1:50 4:20 6:50 9:25 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D** Fri Sun 11 a.m. 2:30 6 9:25 Mon Thu 1:40 6 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** Fri Sun 4:10 Mon-Thu 3 **Jack Reacher** 3:20 6:40 **Les Miserables** Fri to Sun 11:40 a.m. 2:50 6:10 9:20 Mon to Thu 1:4:20 7:30 **Lincoln** 12:50 **Parental Guidance** 12:40 6:20 **Promised Land** 1 3:50 6:35 9:40 **Texas Chainsaw 3D** Fri to Sun 11:50 a.m. 4:40 7 9:10 9:35 Mon to Thu 12, 4:40 6:50 9:25 **This Is 40** 12:30 3:30 6:40 9:35 **Zero Dark Thirty** Fri to Sun 12, 3:10 6:30 7:45 9:40 Mon to Thu 12, 3:10 6:30 7:45 9:45

MARQUIS THEATRE

Main St., Middlebury, 388-4841

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
Django Unchained 7 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D** 7 **Les Miserables** 7

friday 11 — thursday 17
Les Miserables 7 **Lincoln** 7 **Zero Dark Thirty** 7

MERRILL'S ROXY CINEMA

222 College St., Burlington, 864-3456, merrilltheatres.net

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
Django Unchained 2 6 9:10 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 12:40 4 7:20 **Hyde Park on Hudson** 12:50 2:50 4:50 7 9 **The Impossible** 1 3:40 6:30 8:50 **Les Miserables** 12:30 3:25 6:20 9:20 **Lincoln** 12:30 3:20 6:10 9:05

friday 11 — thursday 17
Django Unchained 2 6 9:10 ***Gangster Squad** 1:10 3:40 6:30 8:50 **Hyde Park on Hudson** 12:40, 2:40, 4:40 6:40 8:40 **The Impossible** 3:50 9 **Les Miserables** 1 4:10 7:20 ***Zero Dark Thirty** 12:30 3:20 6:20 9:20

PALACE 9 CINEMAS

10 Fayette Dr., South Burlington, 864-6610, palace9.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
Django Unchained 2:35 6:05 9:20 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 2:30 6 9:15 **Jack Reacher** 3:25 9:25 **Les Miserables** 12:10 3:15 6:20 9:25 **Lincoln** 12:20 6:25 ***The Metropolitan Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera Encore** Wed 6:30 **Not Fade Away** 1:45 4:20 7 9:30 **Parental Guidance** 1:25 3:55 6:40 9:05 **Promised Land** 1:40 4:05 6:45 9:10 **Silver Linings Playbook** 1:35 4:15 6:55 9:35 **This Is 40** 12:30 3:30 6:30 9:20

friday 11 — thursday 17
Django Unchained 2:30 6 9:15 ***Gangster Squad** 1:25 4:10 6:50 9:30 ***A Haunted House** 2:40 4:55 7:10 9:35 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 2:55 6:10 **Jack Reacher** Fri to Wed 9:05 **Las Miserables** 12:10 3:15 6:20 9:25 **Lincoln** Fri to Tue 12:30 6:25 Wed 12:30 Thu 12:30 6:25 ***The Metropolitan Opera: Aida Encore** Wed 6:30 ***Nicholas Sparks: Safe Haven Filmmakers' Author and Stars Live** Thu 6 **Parental Guidance** Fri to Tue 12:20 3:45 9:20 Wed 12:20 3:45 Thu 12:20 3:45 9:20 **Promised Land** Fri to Wed 1:35 4:05 6:45 Thu 1:35 4:05 **Silver Linings Playbook** 1:15 3:55 6:40 9:15 **This Is 40** 12:05, 9:30 ***Zero Dark Thirty** 12 3:05 6:15 9:20

PARAMOUNT TWIN CINEMA

241 North Main St., Barre, 479-9821, fgltheaters.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D 7 **Jack Reacher** 9 **Skyfall** 6:15

friday 11 — thursday 17
***Gangster Squad** 1 & 3:20 (Sat. & Sun. only) 6:30 9 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 1:15 (Sat. & Sun. only) 6 (Fri. & Sat. only) 7 (Sun.-Thu. only) 9:15 (Fri. & Sat. only)

Full schedule not available at press time

THE SAVOY THEATER

26 Main St., Montpelier, 229-0509, savoytheater.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
The Central Park Five 6:15 **Hyde Park on Hudson** 6:30 8:30

friday 11 — thursday 17
Hyde Park on Hudson Fri 6:30 8:30 Sat. and Sun. 1 3:30 6:30 8:30 Mon. to Thu. 6:30 8:30 **Mahler on the Couch** Fri. 6 Sat. and Sun. 1:30 6 Mon. to Thu. 6, 8

STOWE CINEMA 3 PLEX

Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-4678, stowecinema.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
Django Unchained 4:30 7:30 ***Gangster Squad** Thu. 10 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 4:30 7:30 **Parental Guidance** 4:30 6:30 8:30

friday 11 — thursday 17
Django Unchained Fri. 6:15, 9 Sat. 2:30 6:15 9 Sun. 4:30 7:30 Mon. to Thu. 7:30 ***Gangster Squad** Fri. 7 Sat. 2:30 7 9:10 Sun. 4:30 7:30 Mon. to Thu. 7:30 ***Zero Dark Thirty** Fri. 6:15, 9 Sat. 2:30 6:15 9 Sun. 4:30 7:30 Mon. to Thu. 7:30.

WELDEN THEATRE

104 No. Main St., St. Albans, 527-7866, weldentheatre.com

wednesday 9 — thursday 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D 6:15 **The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** 5 **Jack Reacher** 5 7:30 **Parental Guidance** 5 7:30

Full schedule not available at press time

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TEXAS CHAINSAW 3D★1/2 Multiple sequels a remake and a prequel to the remake apparently all paved the way for this 3D "direct sequel" to Tobe Hooper's classic horror flick. With Alexandra Daddario and Dan Yeager as Leatherface. John Luessenhop directed. (92 min. R. Essex, Majestic)

THIS IS 40★★★ Paul Rudd and Leslie Mann reprise their *Knocked Up* roles as a suburban couple with two kids now facing the big four-oh. In this comedy from writer-director Judd Apatow. With Albert Brooks, John Lithgow, Jason Segel, Megan Fox, Lena Dunham, Apatow's daughters and virtually everyone else he likes to work with. (134 min. R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Palace)

NEW ON VIDEO

COMPLIANCE★★★★ A call placed to a fast-food joint turns into a sadistic psychological experiment in this fact-based drama from writer-director Craig Zobel. With Ann Dowd, Pat Healy and Dreama Walker. (90 min, R)

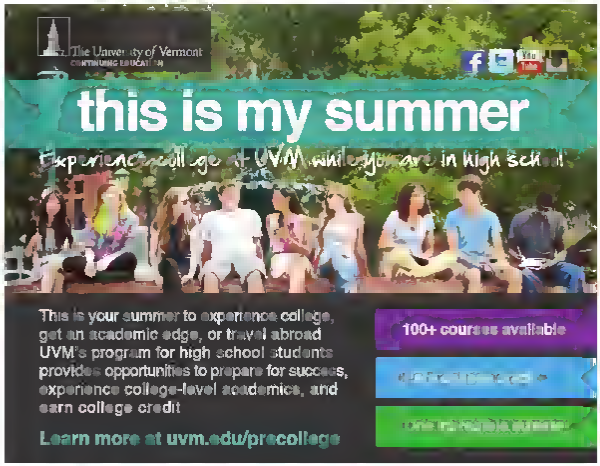
DREDD★★★ The makers of this futuristic action thriller about a cop with powers of judge, jury and executioner insist it's an adaptation of the *Judge Dredd* comics with no connection to the notorious 1995 Stallone film. Karl Urban, Olivia Thirlby and Lena Headey star. Pete Travis directed. (95 min. R)

FRANKENWEENIE★★★1/2 A boy named Victor Frankenstein gets more than he bargained for when he uses science to reanimate his beloved dog in this black-and-white stop-motion animation from (who else?) Tim Burton. (87 min. PG)

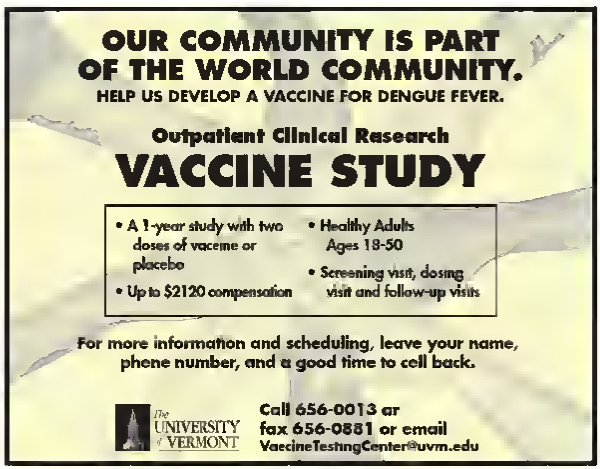
HIT AND RUN★ And we have a winner for Most Generic Film Title of 2012. In this action comedy road-movie, Dax Shepard and Kristen Bell are lovers on the run from the law. Bradley Cooper and Tom Arnold stand in their way. David Palmer and Shepard directed. (85 min. R)

HOUSE AT THE END OF THE STREET★1/2 Jennifer Lawrence and Elisabeth Shue learn that homes where someone killed their parents should probably be avoided, much like cabins in the woods, in this horror flick from director Mark Tonderai. With Max Thieriot. (101 min. PG-13)

SAMSARA★★★1/2 Director Ron (*Baraka*) Fricke combines worldless footage from 26 countries into a visual spectacle intended to evoke the cyclical nature of existence. (99 min, PG-13)







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Curses, Foiled Again

When a homeowner confronted a burglar who kicked in the door of his home in Arleta, Calif., around noon, the thief begged the resident not to call police and dashed to his car, which he'd parked in the driveway. It wouldn't start. Police records stated the burglar returned to the house to repeat his request not to call the police, but when he turned his back, the homeowner knocked him unconscious with a hoe. The suspect recovered and ran off before police arrived, but detectives found fingerprints, a clear footprint where he'd kicked open the door, blood on the hoe and the car, which contained other stolen goods, as well as a traffic citation with the name and address of suspect Miguel Luna, 25. "The crime scene was really a study in how to get caught," Lt. Paul Vernon observed. (Los Angeles *Daily News*)

What Could Go Wrong?

Among the attractions that Randy Stears, president and head trainer of Florida's Dade City Wild Things, announced he's planning for his 22-acre zoo is a zip line over the tiger habitat. (The Tampa *Tribune*)

Slightest Provocation

When Randall White, 49, complained about the slow service while waiting for his pizza at a Little Caesars outlet in St. Petersburg, Fla., another customer in line, Michael Jock, 52, admonished him. That "prompted them to exchange words," police official Mike Puetz said, "and it became a shoving match." White raised a fist, and Jock pulled out a .38 Taurus Ultralight Special Revolver and shot White in the lower torso twice. Puetz said that when police arrived, Jock insisted the shooting was justified under Florida's "stand your ground" law because he feared for his life. (Tampa Bay *Times*)

Feats of Science

Among the winners of the 2012 Ig Nobel awards, sponsored by the journal *Annals of Improbable Research*:

Dutch researchers Anita Eerland, Rolf Zwaan and Tulio Guadalupe were awarded the psychology prize for their study "Leaning to the Left Makes the Eiffel Tower Seem Smaller."

The acoustics prize went to Japanese scientists Kazutaka Kurihara and Koji Tsukada for creating the SpeechJammer, a machine that repeats public speakers' words with a slight delay to alert them if they are speaking too quickly or have taken more than their allotted time.

Frans de Waal and Jennifer Pokorny won the anatomy prize for discovering that chimpanzees can identify each other by looking at pictures of their rear ends. (BBC News)

Business Directory

Cofounders of Generation Investment Management, who stand to reap a sizable share of the $500 million that al-Jazeera agreed to pay for Current TV: David Blood and Al Gore. (Bloomberg News)

Contractors to Avoid

Hoping to restore an 18th-century French chateau in Yvrac to its former glory, Russian businessman Dmitry Stroskin hired a construction company to renovate the baroque manor and raze a small building nearby while he was out of town. He returned to find the outbuilding still standing but the 140,000-square-foot manor reduced to rubble. "The Chateau de Bellevue was Yvrac's pride and joy," former owner Juliette Marmie said. "The whole village is in shock. How can this construction firm make such a mistake?" Explaining that he was "in shock," Stroskin said he plans to build an exact replica of the chateau. (Associated Press)

After Wells Fargo Home Mortgage foreclosed on a property in Woodland Hills, Calif., it hired a contractor to clear it out. Instead, the contractor emptied a nearby house belonging to retired bricklayer Alvin Tjosaas, 77, who was out of town at his granddaughter's wedding. Alerted that their contractor had gone to the wrong house, Wells Fargo hired a different contractor, who also showed up at Tjosaas's house. "Alvin was left to sit among the ruins of the house," Pat Tjosaas said of her husband, noting that the contractors had used a satellite photo and an address that Wells Fargo gave them. Wells Fargo issued a statement that it was "deeply sorry" for the home "being mistakenly secured and entered." (ABC News)

Polygamy Follies

When Nigerian businessman Uroko Onoja returned from drinking at a bar in Ogbadibo, he had sex with the youngest of his six wives, Odachi Onoja. The other five wives entered the bedroom armed with knives and sticks, and demanded he have sex with them, too. He had sex with four of them before he stopped breathing. "I tried to resuscitate him," Odachi Onoja said, "but when the other wives saw what had happened, they all ran off laughing into the forest, leaving me with the corpse." Okpe Odoh, the village head, confirmed the incident had been reported to police. (New York's *Daily News*)



Capricorn

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

What does it mean when the dwarf planet Pluto impacts a key point in your horoscope? For Capricorn gymnast Gabby Douglas, it seemed to be profoundly empowering. During the time Pluto was close to her natal sun during last year's Summer Olympics, she won two gold medals, one with her team and one by herself. Luck had very little to do with her triumph. Hard work, self-discipline and persistence were key factors. I'm predicting that Pluto's long cruise through the sign of Capricorn will give you an opportunity to earn a Gabby Douglas-like achievement in your own sphere — if, that is, you can summon the same level of willpower and determination that she did. Now would be an excellent time to formally commit yourself to the glorious cause that excites you the most.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Writing at io9.com, Charlie Jane Anders provides "10 Signs You Could Be the Chosen Savior." Among the clues are the following: 1. "Give yourself one point for every time someone comes up to you on the street, points at you, gibbers something inarticulate, and runs away." 2. "How many robot/clone duplicates of yourself have you come across lately?" 3. "Is there a blurry black-and-white photo/drawing from history that sort of looks like you?" 4. "Have you achieved weird feats that nobody could explain but which nobody else witnessed?" Now would be a good time for you to take this test, Aries. You're in a phase of your astrological cycle when your dormant superpowers may finally be awakening — a time when you might need to finally claim a role you've previously been unready for. (Read Anders' article here: tinyurl.com/AreYouChosen.)

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) "Dear Rob the Astrologer: I have a big question for you. If I could get access to a time machine, where would you suggest I should go? Is there a way to calculate the time and place where I could enjoy favorable astrological connections that would bring out the best in me? — Curious Taurus." Dear Curious: Here are some locations that might be a good fit for you Tauruses right now: Athens, Greece, in 459 B.C.; Constantinople in 1179; Florence, Italy, in 1489; New York in 2037. In general, you would thrive wherever there are lots of bright people co-creating a lively culture that offers maximum stimulation. You need to have your certainties challenged and your mind expanded and your sense of wonder piqued.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Will archaeologists find definitive evidence of the magical lost continent of Atlantis in 2013? Probably not. How about Shambhala, the mythical kingdom in Central Asia where the planet's greatest spiritual masters are said to live? Any chance it will be discovered by Indiana Jones-style fortune hunters? Again, not likely. But I do think there's a decent chance that sometime in the next seven months, many of you Geminis will discover places, situations and circumstances that will be, for all intents and purposes, magical and mythical.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) There's a spot in the country of Panama where you can watch the sun rise in the east over the Pacific Ocean. In another Panamanian location, you can see the sun set in the west over the Atlantic Ocean. Nothing weird is involved. Nothing twisted or unearthly. It's simply a quirk of geography. I suspect that a similar situation will be at work in your life sometime soon. Things may seem out of place. Your sense of direction might be off kilter, and even your intuition could seem to be playing tricks on you. But don't worry. Have no fear. Life is simply asking you to expand your understanding of what "natural" and "normal" are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Metaphorically speaking, a pebble was in your shoe the whole past week. You kept thinking, "Pretty soon I've got to take a minute to get rid of that thing," and yet you never did. Why is that? While it wasn't enormously painful, it distracted you just enough to keep you from giving your undivided attention to the important tasks at hand. Now here's a news flash: The damn pebble is still in your shoe. Can I persuade you to remove it? Please?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Even when you know exactly what you want, it's sometimes crucial for you not to accomplish it too fast. It may be that you need to mature more before you're ready to handle your success. It could be that if you got all of your hearts' desire too quickly and easily, you wouldn't develop the vigorous willpower that the quest was meant to help you forge. The importance of good timing can't be underestimated either. In order for you to take full advantage of your dream-come-true many other factors in your life have to be in place and arranged just so. With those thoughts in mind, Virgo, I offer you this prediction for 2013: A benevolent version of a perfect storm is headed your way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Artists who painted images in caves 30,000 years ago did a pretty good job of depicting the movements of four-legged animals like horses. In fact, they were more skilled than today's artists. Even the modern experts who illustrate animal anatomy textbooks don't match the accuracy of the people who decorated cave walls millennia ago. So says a study reported in Livescience.com (tinyurl.com/CaveArtMagic). I'd like to suggest this is a useful metaphor for you to consider, Libra. There's some important task that the old you did better than the new you does. Now would be an excellent time to recapture the lost magic.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) After evaluating your astrological omens for the coming months, I've decided to name you Scorpios the "Top Sinners of the Year" for 2013. What that means is that I suspect your vices will be more inventive and more charming than those of all the other signs. Your so-called violations may have the effect of healing some debilitating habit. In fact, your "sins" may not be immoral or wicked at all. They might actually be beautiful transgressions that creatively transcend the status quo; they might be imaginative improvements on the half-assed way that things have always been done. To ensure you're always being ethical in your outlaw behavior, be committed to serving the greater good at least as much as your own selfish interests.

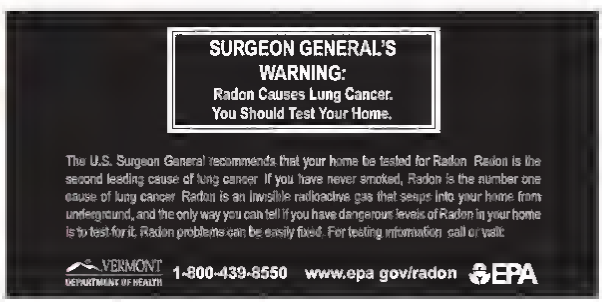
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Here's the horoscope I hope to be able to write for you a year from now: "Your mind just kept opening further and further during these past 12 months. Sagittarius — way beyond what I ever imagined possible. Congrats! Even as you made yourself more innocent and receptive than you've been in a long time, you were constantly getting smarter and sharpening your ability to see the raw truth of what was unfolding. Illusions and misleading fantasies did not appeal to you. Again, kudos!"

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) "Diplomacy is the art of saying 'nice doggie' until you can find a rock," said humorist Will Rogers. I hope you've been taking care of the "nice doggie" part, Aquarius — holding the adversarial forces and questionable influences at bay. As for the rock, I predict you will find it any minute now, perhaps even within an hour of reading this horoscope. Please keep in mind that you won't necessarily have to throw the rock for it to serve its purpose. Merely brandishing it should be enough.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Do you know the word "cahoots"? Strictly speaking, it means to be in league with allies who have the same intentions as you do: to scheme and dream with confederates whose interests overlap with yours. Let's expand that definition a little further and make it one of your central themes in the coming week. For your purposes, "cahoots" will signify the following: to conspire with like-minded companions as you cook up some healthy mischief or whip up an interesting commotion or instigate a benevolent ruckus.

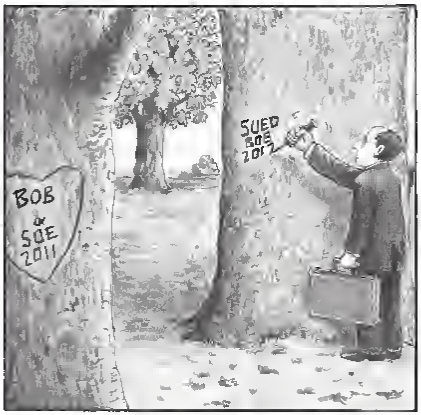
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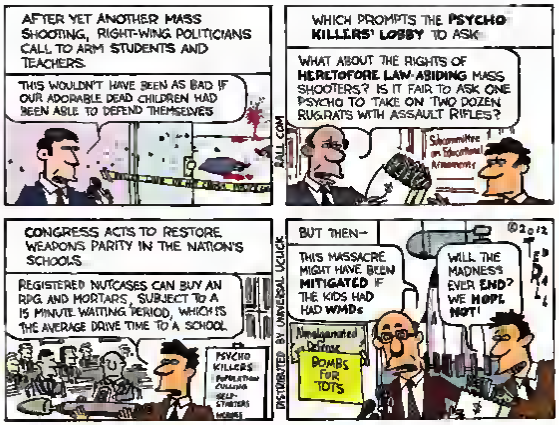


FREE long-term radon test kits are available at healthvermont.gov

BLISS BY HARRY BLISS



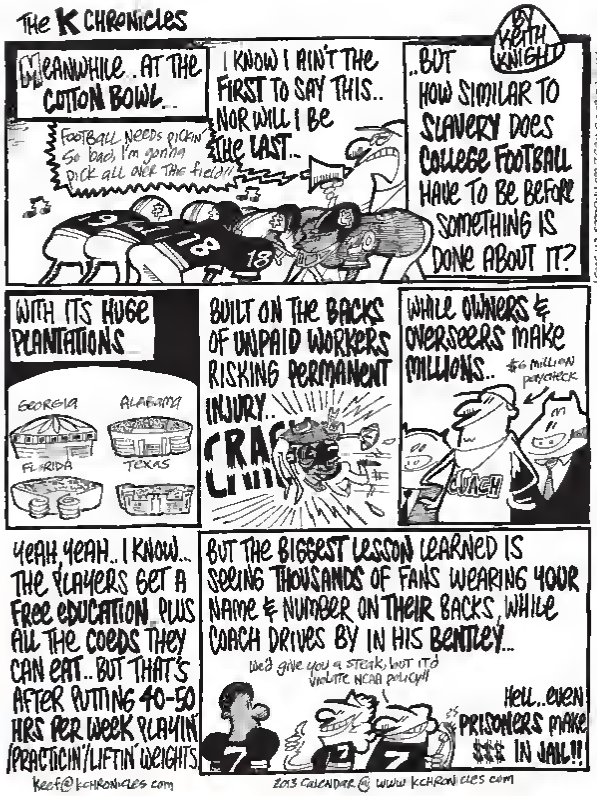
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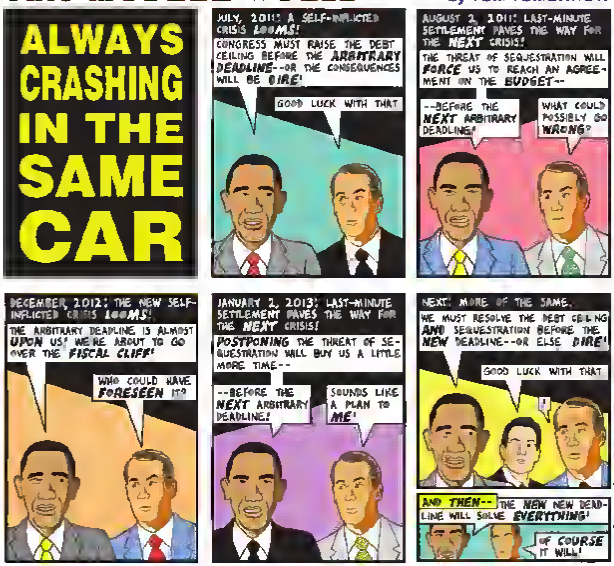


THE K CHRONICLES



THIS MODERN WORLD

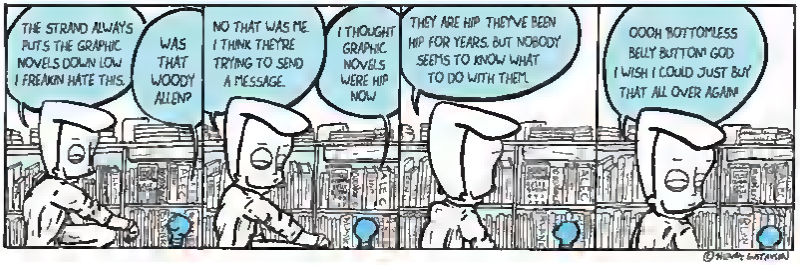
by TOM TOMORROW



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Bill the Cockroach

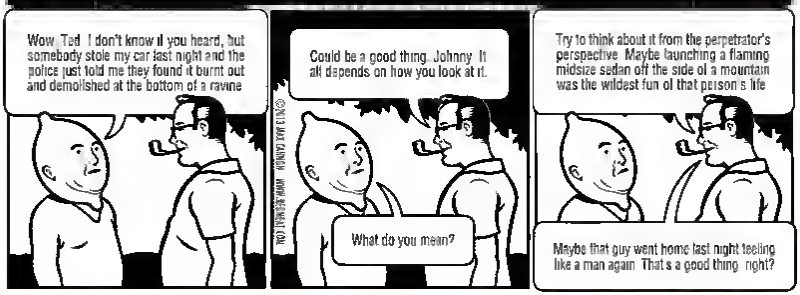
HENRY GUSTAVSON



RED MEAT

caterwaul from the culvert

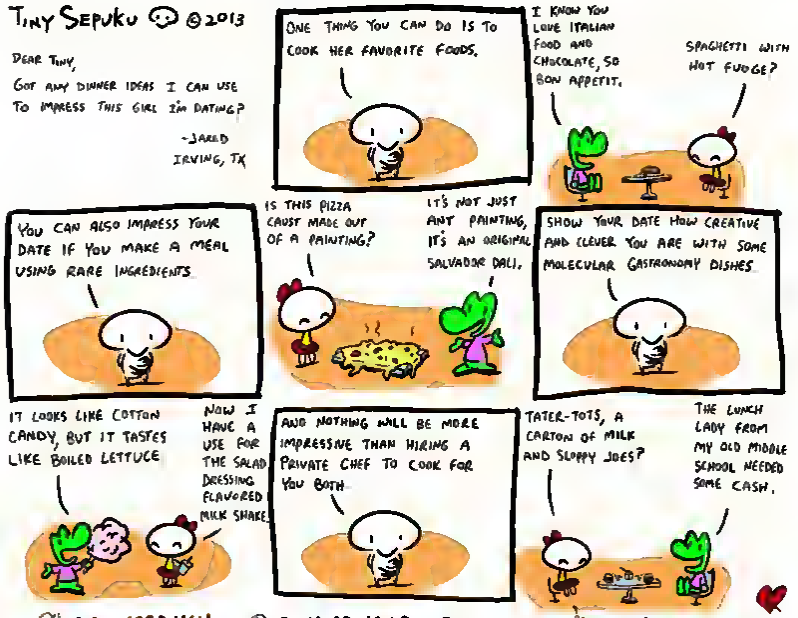
from the secret files of **Max Cannon**



TINY SEPUKU © 2013

DEAR TINY,
GOT ANY DINNER IDEAS I CAN USE TO IMPRESS THIS GIRL I'M DATING?

-JARED
IRVING, TX



@TINYSEPUKU ?TINYSEPUKU@HOTMAIL.COM TINYSEPUKU.COM

AMERICAN ELF

THE SKETCHBOOK DIARIES OF JAMES KOCHALKA

As you may be aware, I quit drawing Amer can Elf on New Year's Eve. But I have a few from the end of the year that have not yet appeared in Seven Days, and I will share those with you this week and next.

FANTASY REALITY PUBLICITY

THE LOCAL TV NEWS IS DOING A REPORT ABOUT ME ENDING AMERICAN ELF. I DREW THIS FIRST PANEL JUST SO THEY COULD FILM ME DRAWING



IT TURNS OUT THAT QUITTING AMERICAN ELF WAS A BRILLIANT MARKETING DECISION



BUT I DIDN'T MEAN TO BREAK YOUR HEARTS.



DECEMBER 21, 2012
MAYAN APOCALYPSE

QUITTING TIME



DECEMBER 22 2012

HAPPINESS



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DECEMBER 27, 2012

MORE FUN! STRAIGHT DOPE (P.24) NEWS QUIRKS (P.68) & FREE WILL ASTROLOGY (P.69)

CROSSWORD (PC 5) & CALCDKU & SUDDKU (PC 7)

PERSONALS

For relationships, dates, flirts and i-spys:
sevendaysvt.com/personals



WOMEN seeking WOMEN

KIND AND CARING PERSON ALWAYS
I'm a single mom of five. I am a kind person who always shows respect to everyone I meet. I am curious right now. This is all new to me. Looking for someone who can be patient. We don't have to have the same likes. After all we are all different. **goddessofvt 38**

FUNNY DOG LADY
OK. This is my first venture in online personal stuff. You could say I'm an online virgin. I have been a few places and done a few things, so at this point, looking for someone to have some adventure, fun and humor with skiing and long walks in between. Be ready to change with the stars or our moods. **doggonelady 58**

THE FUN STUFF
I value fun, laughter and companionship and can't imagine a day without a long hike in the woods with my dogs. I'm transitioning from a decades long profession to one that thrills me as I navigate graduate school. I'm excited about the prospect of sharing myself with a woman who gets it. **sassafrass28 58**

KIND, FUNNY, CUTE SHY
Ok ladies here goes. I'm not very good at this so hope you will understand. I'm kind, sweet, honest, funny and a hopeless romantic. I have a lot of interests so if curious drop me a line love to here from you. Thanks for reading my profile ☺ **Cowabanga 42**

ADVENTUROUS HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME
I am a balanced person with a fun, interesting and fulfilling life. I enjoy equally relaxing at home and being outside looking or training for my next adventure. I have a close, open and welcoming family and wonderful friends. I am looking for someone who is comfortable with herself and interested in sharing both down time and adventures. **Ariana 42**

HONESTY AND SENSE OF HUMOR
I consider myself honest and hard working. I am looking for someone who is the same. I love to camp and spend most of the summer camping. I love a warm fire and snuggling with a great movie. **tooshy 38**

SEXY, FUN, DOWN-TO-EARTH
I love nature, cooking, art and music. I'm a single mom and I cherish that part of my life the most. I would like to meet the right man to help me enjoy life with a sense of humor. I am kind, indulgent and romantic, hoping to meet a man to appreciate. **snowfox, 33**

AUTHENTIC HUMAN SEEKING CONNECTIONS
I'm looking to expand my horizons as far as friends and dating go. I'm told I'm rather hilarious and sweet and also quite sarcastic. **wttyacronymhere 25**

MAKIN' MUSIC UNDER THE STARS
A few of my favorite things: playing folky/bootsy/grassy music with friends, hiking, bicycling, backcountry skiing/snowshoeing, exploring new places, writing, reading, solitude and reveling in life's little adventures. Looking for someone who loves to laugh and is engaged in the process of freeing her spirit. **mountainmusic 51**

WOMEN seeking MEN

QUIRKY, LOYAL, LIBRA BOOK JUNKIE
Preschool teacher. Caucasion with hazel eyes, brown hair. Hiker, would be traveler, painter, photographer. Also enjoy dancing, cooking, trying new things/events/foods. Looking for like-minded person comfortable in their own skin, likes boards games, talks during movies, environmentally friendly, pet lover, and someone who can make me laugh. **EarlyBird 26**

CURIOUS?

You read *Seven Days*, these people read *Seven Days* — you already have at least one thing in common!

All the action is online. Browse more than 1600 local singles with profiles including photos, voice messages, habits, desires, views and more.

It's free to place your own profile online. Don't worry, you'll be in good company.

See photos of this person online.

FRIENDLY, FUN AND CARING
I am a friendly, fun and caring woman looking for that someone who is honest, humorous and down to earth. I can be a quiet person but once I get to know someone I can't stop talking. If anyone has questions for me, please ask! I'm up to do anything when someone asks me. **SamKit84 28**

TURNING LEMONS+LEMONADE SINCE 1985
No matter what I'm doing, I'm having the time of my life. I'm an adventure seeker and love staying on my toes; the mundane is for the lame. Looking for someone who's not scared to say YES more often than NO when faced with a new situation. Smiling, laughing and my friends rock my world. Hopefully you can too. **takeabackroad, 23**

SIMPLE, QUIET ADVENTURES
My work is both busy and challenging, so enjoy quietly exploring VT on my off time. Small, out of the way restaurants and quiet waterways to paddle in good weather. Always up for a good walk, movie, and on occasion the theater. Stimulating conversation while jointly preparing good food is always a treat. **MSLNR 58**

PEACE, UNITY AND NUDITY
People always tell me I'm cute. I love to go out on the town and have fun. Recently I have dreams of being a pool shark, but I spend more time putting chalk on my nose and joking with my opponent. **Goingplacesbutstayinphere, 24**

SUPTLE, SENSITIVE, PRACTICAL AND PERCEPTIVE
Inspiration, transformation, love and harmony have become my stepping stones to follow this chapter in my life. Looking for someone who can add the sparks to it. **kerze 55**

BLUE-EYED ADVENTURER
I am an intelligent, honest, creative caring person. I value my integrity above all and I'm the same in someone else. Honesty works for me. I am an attractive, fun-loving person who will try nearly anything once. I love to be active, enjoy life and learn new things. Good conversationalist and even better listener. **honestwisdom 42**

HERE WE ARE
I try to adore and appreciate the hell out of the things that are truly important to me, and not take the rest too seriously. Letting life happen and finding the humor, heart or learning opportunity beats worry, no. Not that I always stay so mindful, but I'm working on it with meditation, good friends, good beer and admittedly cheap wine. **lalaloney 25**

TRY SOMETHING NEW WITH ME
I am adventurous and love trying new things. I love hockey, playing with my dog, laughing so hard my stomach hurts and helping people. I have blue eyes, blond hair and an athletic build. I am a college graduate and have a good job in the medical field. I like taking care of myself and those in my life. **Itsavtthing 23**

BADASS GIRLYGIRL WITH CLASS!
I enjoy the little things in life! I'm very easily amused and I LOVE to laugh! **Sarah802 28**

IF I COULD GO?
I love art. I love adventure. I love horses. I love instruments and rhythm. My to-do list is to create paintings, many paintings; write a screenplay; make a film; write a novel; write a children's book; live in Paris; hike the Himalayas; and live in Vermont where I am right now. Read I adventure. Do you? **Geckett 23**

CAPTIVATING
I think Vermont is a wonderful place but sometimes yearn for a bigger social pool. I love my job and am very happy in my life. I'm very passionate and love to talk about the big challenges facing the world and its people. Anyone who knows me knows that I am not afraid to speak up when something seems unjust. **oldsoul 25**

OUTGOING PERSON
I need a woman that has a sense of humor and can talk some jokes. **mjboyer 37**

PASSIONATE, FOOLISH, HONEST, ACTIVE
I am a fun-loving, serious person who keeps balance in my life. I work hard helping the mentally ill and play hard to keep myself centered. I can be foolish and serious, depending on the situation. I like to ski, waterski, skate, bike, hike and generally be outdoors. I'm on my boat on Champlain as much as possible. **Pond_PO**

FUNNY, GOOFY, FAMILY, FOOTBALL, PASSION
Hey man. I am just looking for a beautiful girl who wants to have fun. I like to laugh and make people laugh. Don't take yourself to seriously and we will get along fine. I have three beautiful daughters who come first in my life but I always make time for someone who is into me. **Goofball55 38**

PROFILE of the WEEK



FUNNY, SMART, FRIENDLY LATINA

Interested in meeting a positive, stable gentleman with great sense of humor (hopefully he likes to dance too). I'm silly, positive, honest, like to dance, love to smile and e mom. Life is too short to be upset. I am pretty cool and not too ugly looking. **LaPana, 36, Women seeking Men**

Three things that I went from my ideal mete ere... honesty, mekes me smile, elweys there when I need him

MEN seeking WOMEN

HARDWORKING OUTDOORSMAN CARING 47
I'm very honest and loving, kindhearted and generous. I enjoy going out for dinner and a movie but I can also stay home, cook a nice dinner and snuggle on the couch. You need to be honest, hardworking, affectionate, spontaneous, independent and driven. Also being good at communication is very important no matter what the situation is. **enjoylife65 47**

FUN TO BE WITH
I am a humorous person. Fun to be with and love my kids. I am looking for a woman that is willing to be an outgoing person. I need a woman that has a sense of humor and can talk some jokes. **mjboyer 37**

CHARISMATIC, FUN AND OUTGOING
I'm a creative professional with a sense of humor who enjoys an active life and all that it offers. **TarzanSeeksJane 45**

MEN seeking MEN

EARTH STEWARD SEEKS TRUE CONNECTION
My path has lead me towards permaculture and eventually I'd like to build a homestead site with a food forest, plenty of gardening and wildlife refuge. My goals are to become sustainable and live a healthy earth friendly life maybe raise some kids someday with the right guy ☺ **Nytestorm86 28**



WOMEN seeking?

NAUGHTY LIL GIRL NEEDS DADDY
I've been left unsupervised and have been a very naughty lil girl. I think daddy needs to put me over his knee and give me a spanking. It's okay if daddy is younger than me. I have a lot of energy and need someone that can keep up. **shyhahyshyla 40**

LADYLOVIN'
Looking for some fun. NSA, discreet encounters that will rock our worlds! **LadyLovin 25**

NAUGHTY FUN FOR SUBS
Superbly Dominant and Beautiful Mistress seeks generous subs to wallow at My feet. All fetishes celebrated. Check out my beautiful dungeon. Come play with a serious but sane Dominatrix who will have you begging for more. Waiting to hear from respectful subs. **evawinters, 44**

CRAZY
Wanna get crazy looking for more fun in my sex life. I'm looking for girls, guys, couples to have fun with that are sexually into bondage and submiss ve looking to be taken advantage of and controlled. the harder the better. **Wannagetcrazy? 24**

NAUGHTY LOCAL GIRLS
WANT TO CONNECT WITH YOU
1-888-420-8A8E
69¢

PASSION THIRSTY SEX SLAVE
I'm looking for some excitement and want to explore everything out there. I love to have fun and live in the moment. I'm always looking for new things and want to share that with someone else who's super fun to be with! I am really caring and considerate but looking to keep my sex life separate and uncomplicated! **sexy12, 21**

MAGICALLY DELICIOUS
I'm just looking for a good time. I'm easygoing and like to have fun. **dejii88 24**

DIRTY GIRL LOOKING FOR PLAYMATE
Looking for a guy, girl or group to join me and possibly another playmate for a night of fun. I like playing with toys, strap ons, blow jobs and anal is a must. I love to leave being a dirty girl! I would like to meet first... very discreet inquiries only! **dirtygirl69, 42**

SASSY N' SEXY
Looking for an established man who wants to have descreet encounters. I love to have fun! **Vtwoman81 31**

BBW IN NEED
Have little experience and many fantas es. Look ng to try something new. **lookingforu 36**

NATURAL AND ORGANIC
I am a student. I like fun. I like when things just happen. I am very laid-back and open. I enjoy art, and anything outdoors. Looking for someone like minded. Looking for excitement. **arganic17 22,**

FILLMYHOLES
There's not other way to say it than I love to be fucked. I am submissive and love to have my holes filled. I love cock and pussy. I say the more the merrier. I am discreet. Your pictures get mine. Hope to taste you soon. **fillmyholes 37**

CURIOUS, WILLING, LOOKING FOR FUN
I'm a college freshman with a BDSM curiosity and willingness for lots of fun. w th no opportunity to explore until now. I'm looking for a friendship or teaching relationship where we can explore safely and freely. Sorry but no anal. Want to know anything else? Feel free to message me. **CuriousKit 21**

ITS TRESS MISS TRESS
Gothic freak in search of larger freak. Very rough play, softies need not apply. Prefer to dominate unless you smack me down hard. Discreet or n the park, matters not. **Obeyitherway 19**

MEN seeking?

YOUR PLEASURE IS MY PLEXSURE
I seek a sensual explorer to join me in discavenng new pleasures. Ta try things we've only dreamed to share pass on sensuality secrets laughs, sighs and means. I'll confess marrind, almost always faithful. Not a player. Happy Curious. Lust ng. I know. I am dreaming. Perhaps you are too? Don't be shy. Take a chance. Tell me what you seek. **adventuresinvt, 49**

SKINNY IS OUT
Hi. I'm skinny, love people and need someone to play with me. Will you be the one please? Still a virgin and hopefully someone will take it. Looking for someone of the same type: skinny punk. I'm kind of quirky. Not racist at all. You can email me and I will come. I'm 20. Thanx. **Skinny 18**

SUBMISSIVE SNOWMAN SEEKS DOMINANT SNOWWHITE
Looking for some fun w th a dominant woman that likes to have fun B☺ That would enjoy some physical and $$$ other types of worship and would like to play two to three times per month. Prefer women that smoke. **submissivesnow8 48**

SEXLOVER
Been single awhile and looking to catch up. **gemini 52**

ATHLETIC HORNY SKIEX AND BIKER
In a relationship but seeking that discreet spark. FWB but friends first. The chemistry must be mutual. You need to want me as I want you. Total mutual respect. I love to do fun things. 420 friendly. **skyjustice 49**

SUBSLAVE
Want to be dom nated. **subslave 24**

SINFUL PLAY
Someone to have fun with and be just kinky and free and open with, and who desires to be pleased and please. **sinfulplay1490 22,**

MALE DOM SEEKS FEM SUB
I am a well educated professional in search of a lady who knows what she wants and appreciates some creative bedtime activities. He he. I am hoping to make some connections and if it turns out to be more then even better. **Sir_ 45**

LOOKING FOR FUN AROUND BURLINGTON
I am 22 years old and in pretty good shape. Looking for someone to have a good time with. If interested I will send pics. Not interested in putting myself out there for fr ends etc. to see. So if you're interested In discreet fun with a fit, young guy hit me up. I'm into older women too. bondage etc. **thecarter81 22**

JUST SEX
Looking for some great nsa sex. I can send pictures. Any questions just ask. Women or couples. **justsex, 46**

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT
Do I really need to explain why I'm here? **Nowornever 27**

OTHER seeking?

HOTWIFE
Hotwife mainly looking for hung single males, but also interested In single females and couples. **es757us 35**

SOOO REXDY TO PLAY!
Confident, voluptuous, sexy woman extremely happily married but I've been wanting to taste and tease a gorgeous woman and feel her nipples get hard in my mouth. Discretion is a must, even though my husband wants to watch. D&D free but I'd love to mix you a martini and see where that takes us. **SoReady2Play 44**

NATURAL, CLEAN, FUN LOVING COUPLE
We are in a loving marriage and are looking for a bi curious female or man/woman couple for swapping partners and voyeurism. We are clean and complete virgins to this lifestyle. Are look ng for nice, mature person/couple to have fun with (playing, vacations or getaways) discreetly. He is average, she s big and beautiful. **ready4hotadventure 42**

LOOKING FOR OUR FUN GIRL
We are a very fun loving couple, we love cooking, dining out, dancing, or hanging in and watching movies. Looking to spend tender times in and out of the bedroom with that special girl. We will treat you right. With the right girl this could be long term. **polyplease 41**

KINKY DOMINANT HUMOR
Hey there! I am a 23 yr old female look ng to spice things up for my boyfr end and I. We are looking for a female who can keep it discreet and let us fulfill fantasies that have been building up between us. We are open to any suggestions/while keeping it comfortable and would love to please you! **excitingboundries_9084 23**

GET WET WITH US
On the prowl for sexy female to coma play with me and add my man. We are both hot and have wild fantasies. Let's have fun and make them come true together. **klicious 26**

TESTING THE WATER
We are look ng for a girl to causally grab a beer and see where it goes. Him: 6'0, dark hair, athletically thin (cyclist). Her: 5'5, blond, very fit and voluptuous. Both clean, ntelligent and healthy, just looking to have some fun. **checkingitout, 24,**

Your guide to love and lust...

mistress maeve



Dear Mistress,

I've been building a friendship with a woman for a couple years, and I thought we were close. On New Year's Eve, we were at a party thrown by a guy I'm really into. My friend absolutely knows this and was actually coaching me all night about the best way to let him know how much I like him. A little after midnight, I couldn't find my friend, or the guy, so I went looking for them — and found them all over each other in a bedroom. I was hurt and left the party. She sent a text the next morning saying she was sorry for breaking "girl code." What does that even mean?!

Signed,
Girl Code Red

Dear Girl Code Red,

To find the definition of "girl code," you have to look online at Urban Dictionary. Why? Because no one over the age of 21 should be using it in a proper sentence. Your friend has some maturing to do. She didn't break "girl code" — she broke your trust.

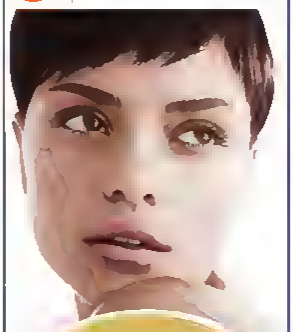
Two women vying for the affections of one man is the ultimate drama, especially if the two women are friends. Let's give her the benefit of the doubt and say that she has genuine feelings for this guy. At the very least, she should have talked with you before the party and let you know that she was crushing on him, too. She should never, under any circumstances, have hooked up with him right under your nose. To add insult to injury, she was giving you advice about him mere moments before sliding tips. That's just tacky.

At best, your friend made a horrible decision with no regard for your feelings; at worst, this behavior reveals that she is incapable of being a trusted friend. Set up a time to talk with her — face-to-face is best, but a phone call is OK (do not turn this into a text or email exchange). Let her know that her actions hurt you and have made you question your friendship. Listen to her response and pay attention to how it makes you feel. If you're not sensing sincere remorse, it might be time to give your relationship a little space.

Coding,
mm

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TENNESSEAN SNDW CHASER
Spied you at the Shell station outside Montpelier dressed for some awesome adventure ce climbing? hiking? x country skiing? I was giggling at how meticulously you were cleaning your car's windows but could not muster the wit to invite you to a day on the slopes Grab some apres beers some! me? **When Friday January 4 2013 Where Montpelier You Man Me Woman #910918**

STUNNING REDHEAD AT PENNY CLUSE
You were — are — a breathtakingly beautiful redhead having breakfast at PC this morning around 9 a m I had to struggle to keep from staring and looking Something timeless and utterly lovely about you I know this is probably silly but I was the single guy in the black sweater eeting alone by the window Any chance? **When Friday January 4 2013 Where Penny Cluse Cafe You Woman Me Man #910915**

GOODWILL BIORESONANCE
We re both checking out the book section at Goodwill We notice each other but don t say anything We vibed off one another but d-dn't say anything because of shyness. Dr maybe I m just a major weirdo who's creepily imposing my ideas on you. Hence no details in here but you'll know You probably won't even see this Well bye! **When Wednesday January 2 2013 Where Goodwill You Woman Me Woman #910914**

SAVDRY BARISTA
Hey beautiful man with the oddly cut brown ha r and crystal gauges You work at Mr Crepe and you served me a strawberry crepe yesterday Your smile was as sweet as the honey on my plate I can tell you're into weird chicks Can your eyes get any more savory? I'll be back for more soon **When Wednesday January 2 2013 Where Mr Crepe You Man Me Woman #910813**

YOU'RE JILL ... THE HAIRDRESSER
I saw you fluttering around your customers a butterfly among flowers. You quickly glanced at me and looked away Then you slowly looked back and our eyes locked our souls remembered and there we were again Hello my love **When Thursday January 3 2013 Where Northfield You Woman Me Man #910912**

SOME ICE CREAM GUY
I was lost in the grocery store as usual I asked if you worked there and you said "No but what do you need?" I was looking for the free carrots and you told me you were just an ice cream guy I found you beautiful Are you single? **When Wednesday January 2 2013 Where Shaws Williston You Man Me Woman #910811**

WALKED ME HOME DN NEW YEAR'S EVE
I was stup d and wore heels out I never wear heels I was by the North Face store and I l terally could not stand You helped me get home and made sure my foot wasn't broken I didn't get your name and I just want to thank you Whoever you are you are my hero! **When Tuesday January 1 2013 Where by the North Face store You Man Me Woman #910910**

ATTRACTIVE GAL AT ATM
12/26 we crossed paths at a gas station on Williston Road You were getting cash from the ATM when I walked n Stopped me dead in my tracks You were wearing a black skirt and coat You looked like the active type Me just from work, black jacket and briefcase Drnks? **When Wednesday December 26 2012. Where Williston Rd gas station. You Woman Me Man #910903**

HEY YOU SHAZAAM FROM VPR
We met at the Pub I tried to give you my chair/stool and then we chatted about your wrestling prowess I have not figured out yet how to spell your name so I am trying this way to reach out to you Say hi Talk more about wrestling **When Saturday December 22, 2012 Where VT pub and brew. You Woman Me Men #910902**

MLC EMPLOYEE AT THE NEEDS
I was out with friends you were at the bar in the little room at the Needs You told me to stop by some! me friendly gesture or more? **When Friday December 14 2012. Where Three Needs. You Man Me Woman. #910901**

HDNKEYTONK
You dark, curly hair sweet smile with friends, Me dark hair with beard enjoying exchanging smiles with you Drinks? **When Thursday December 20 2012 Where Radio Bean You Woman Me Man. #910898**

EARLY MDNDAY CITY MARKET SHOPPER
Looking dashing in your blue puffy down jacket in the checkout aisle beside me you glanced over With black cap and eyeglasses I in my slightly less puffy blue down alternative pullover jacket gladly returned your glance Could not help but admire your glowing, bearded face I d be a lucky man to see you again dunng a morning shop! **When Monday December 24 2012 Where City Market Co-op You Man Me Man #910897**

ONE ACO ENTHUSIAST TO ANOTHER
My dogs would have me shop elsewhere but I insist on returning just to say hello. I've always admired your strength and your smile and for some time have been mean ng to ask, Would you care to share some kibble? **When Saturday December 22, 2012 Where Pet Food Warehouse You: Woman Me Man. #910895**

GUY IN THE GREEN COAT
To the cute guy who walked into the Optical Center with a dark green coat and a shaved head (you had your two boys with you who were eating Harry Potter gummy bears also saw you at the dealer com holiday party wearing jeans, white dress shirt with a black blazer and it looked like a fedora) Just want to say hello **When Sunday July 22, 2012. Where The Optical Center You Men Me Woman. #910884**

THANK YDU
To the beautiful woman upstairs Leunig's on Friday December 21 who passed me by while I was sitting at the bar turned back, leaned in and said "Merry Christmas" and planted a great kiss on my cheek Thank you You made my hol-day seeson Cup of coffee sometime? **When Friday December 21, 2012. Where upstairs Leunig's You Woman Me Man #910893**

WORKING AT TICK TOCK
I saw you dunng the summer mornings sitting on a bench on Church St. with your red dress reading Taking care of your hair I looked at you from my store window always shy to talk to the most beautiful woman I've ever seen **When Wednesday June 20, 2012. Where Church Street Tick Tock jewelers You Woman Me Man #910891**

MELANIE?
Once upon a time you kindly said to me at the Three Penny Taproom that I looked like I needed someone to talk to You were right! If you are somehow single now I d be pleased meet you somewhere for a cup of coffee or a drink Take care wherever you are **When Sunday July 10 2011 Where the Bees Knees You Woman Me Man #910888**

DDGSITTING FOR HARPER LEE
Wish we had more time to talk. **When Thursday December 20 2012 Where South Burlington You Woman Me Men. #910888**

SAINT PAUL STREET 12/19/2012
Was that you cute neighbor? Did you ask me for a smoke before your r de picked you up? If it was you then I have to apologize that I didn't recognize you till after you walked away Hope we run n to each other again **When Wednesday December 19 2012 Where Saint Paul Street You Man Me Man #910884**

MARSHALLS SHOPPING 12/17
You were the tall handsome man shopping in the mens section with a young man (perhaps your son) and I noticed your head turn when you saw me I was the redhead shopping in the women's section. Would love to say hello! **When. Monday, December 17, 2012. Where Marshalls in Williston You Men Me Woman #910879**

PANERA
I never liked the coffee but I saw you through the window past the lines and bodies and saw your smile We spoke for only moments at a time and never long enough for me to stare at that smile a l ttle longer Haven't seen you in awhile Wish I knew which window to walk by to see that smile again **When Tuesday December 11 2012. Where Panera. You Woman Me Man #910877**

WAITING FOR COFFEE
You and I were waiting for coffee at the Mobile on Shelburne Rd on Monday 12/17 You had a very pretty smile Hope you and yours have a great holiday Maybe I ll see you again for coffee **When Monday December 17 2012. Where Shelburne You Woman Me Man #910878**

CDSTCO CAFFEINE CUTIE
We passed each other a few times in the aisles. You had a case of Red Bull and another of Diet Coke Dark blond hair, black coat with fur trim black skirt and boots brilliant smile If you are not otherwise attached, I would like to share a cart next time and learn more about you **When Monday December 17 2012. Where Costco. You Woman Me Man #910875**

HILTON IN BURLINGTONI
I saw you at my company party We made eye contact and you sm-led at me I told my friend that you were cute and she went and told you Is this true? I wore a red shirt and tan pants. You were tall with a beard and lookin sexy If you see th s, get back at me **When Saturday December 15 2012 Where Hilton in dowtown Burlington. You Men Me Man. #910874**

THRDUGH THE LDDKING GLASS
We were both too polite letting each other view glass later you took pictures of the 'tno' modeling your zip on sk rts' Found no opportunity for introductions. Was that an opportunity lost or will this note br ng something to gain? **When Wednesday December 12 2012 Where Rich & Tove's Glass Art store/show You Woman Me Man #910871**

GIRL WITH BIG SMILE
Friday December 14 2012 late afternoon at University Mall entranceway I was walking in and opened the first set of doors I saw you and I think your friend standing there probably to stay warm I looked at you and you had a big smile I went into the mall wish I had said hi **When Friday December 14 2012. Where University Mall You Woman. Me Man #910868**

RED BRDDM
Played you last week at Leddy you showed a little late I couldn t stop thinking about you, maybe that's why we lost. Thought I d get a second chance to get d gits but alas we failed to meet again Now I'm hoping to change that. At worst, I hope this makes your day I wore a blue shirt. **When Saturday December 8 2012 Where Leddy Park. You Woman Me Man #910867**

BEER WARS
You were waiting for a table and sitting at the downstairs bar at the Farmhouse We chatted briefly about Beer Wars the documentary Would love to have the chance to chat about it again **When Friday December 14 2012. Where Farmhouse You Man. Me Woman. #910866**

CDWARANGA
Would love to hear more about you but can't figure out how HELP! **When Friday, December 14 2012 Where Two to Tango. You Woman Me Woman. #910861**



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Meet Arnault.

Arnault is a French National in his mid-twenties. He enjoys modeling for American Apparel because the clothes are stylish, and even more importantly, they're comfortable. Currently he lives in Brooklyn, NYC and works at a photography agency.

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